

Appendix N

Public Meeting Summary Reports



ALAMO RMA

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

"Moving people faster"

Final Meeting Report

US 281 Environmental Impact Statement Public Scoping Meeting #2

Prepared for the Federal Highway Administration

San Antonio, Texas
November 17, 2009

APPENDIX A
Legal Notices and
Other Methods of Meeting Advertisement

Announcements and Media Coverage

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS NEWS AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:
COUNTY OF BEXAR

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared Lynette Nelson, who after being duly sworn, says that she is the BOOKKEEPER of THE HEARST CORPORATION (SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS DIVISION), a daily newspaper published in Bexar County, Texas and that the publication of which the annexed is a true copy, was published to wit:

Customer ID: 704399

Customer Name: Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

Order ID: 1265822

Publication	Pub Date
EN Classified	18-OCT-09

Lynette Nelson
Lynette Nelson
Bookkeeper

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 19th day of October A.D. 2009

Notary public in and for the State of Texas

Olivia D. Chaverria



The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (ARMA) will hold the second public scoping meeting regarding transportation improvements to US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. The ARMA is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, to analyze potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the human and natural environment from the construction and operation of transportation improvements.

The public is encouraged to attend the second EIS public scoping meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, between 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm, at Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The meeting will consist of an open house from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, a presentation at 6:30 pm and small group work sessions beginning at 7:00 pm. Project team members will be available to discuss issues and answer questions regarding the proposed project and the EIS process.

The purpose of this meeting is to introduce and gather public input on the preliminary project alternatives and analysis process proposed to be used in the development of reasonable alternatives that would be considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The public will have the opportunity to make either written or verbal comments to be included in the official EIS public record. Written comments will continue to be received through Friday, November 30, 2009. If you are unable to attend the scoping meeting please submit written comments to Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, 1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78212; you may also submit comments to the ARMA by fax to 210-495-5403 or e-mail US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org.

Your participation is encouraged in this important step of the EIS public process. We appreciate your interest in the proposed project and hope you will attend the second public scoping meeting. All exhibits and project handouts will be presented in English, and Spanish-speaking project team members will be available. If you are interested in attending this event and have special communication or accommodation needs or would like to be added to the project mailing list, contact Leroy Alloway at (210) 495-5256 by Tuesday, November 10, 2009. The ARMA will make every reasonable effort to accommodate those needs. For more information regarding US 281 and the EIS project, please visit www.411on281.com.

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS NEWS AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

**STATE OF TEXAS:
COUNTY OF BEXAR**

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared: Lynette Nelson, who after being duly sworn, says that she is the BOOKKEEPER of THE HEARST CORPORATION (SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS DIVISION), a daily newspaper published in Bexar County, Texas and that the publication of which the annexed is a true copy, was published to wit:

Customer ID: 704399

Customer Name: Alamo Regional Mobility Auth

Order ID: 1278409

Publication
EN Classified

Pub Date
07-NOV-09

Lynette Nelson
Lynette Nelson
Bookkeeper

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 9th day of December A.D. 2009

Notary public in and for the State of Texas

Olivia D. Chaverria



Attar

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (ARMA) will hold the second public scoping meeting regarding transportation improvements to US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfield Road. The Alamo RMA is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, to analyze potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the human and natural environment from the construction and operation of transportation improvements.

The public is encouraged to attend the second EIS public scoping meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, between 5:30 pm and 8:30 pm, at Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The meeting will consist of an open house from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, a presentation at 6:30 pm, and small group work sessions beginning at 7:00 pm. Project team members will be available to discuss issues and answer questions regarding the proposed project and the EIS process.

The purpose of this meeting is to introduce and gather public input on the preliminary project alternatives and analysis process proposed to be used in the development of reasonable alternatives that would be considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The public will have the opportunity to make either written or verbal comments to be included in the official EIS public record. Written comments will continue to be received through Monday, November 30, 2009. (Note: the 30-day legal notice, published on October 13, 2009, erroneously stated that comments would be received through Friday, November 30, 2009.) If you are unable to attend the scoping meeting please submit written comments to Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, 1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78217; you may also submit comments to the Alamo RMA by fax to 210-495-5403 or e-mail US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org.

Your participation is encouraged in this important step of the EIS public process. We appreciate your interest in the proposed project and hope you will attend the second public scoping meeting. All exhibits and project handouts will be presented in English, and Spanish-speaking project team members will be available. If you are interested in attending this event and have special communication or accommodation needs or would like to be added to the project mailing list, contact Leroy Alloway at (210) 495-5256 by Tuesday, November 10, 2009. The Alamo RMA will make every reasonable effort to accommodate those needs. For more information regarding US 281 and the EIS project, please visit www.411on201.com.

...drum, rug,
linen, glassware,
etc. Prices nego

BAMMEL
Nov 6-7, Appli-
cations, Clothes, Etc.

BLAIRSTONE
7th 8-2, Lots of
as Decor & More!

BUCKLANE Bul-
17-8 9am-3pm
um, lawn, misc.

COMMUNITY
SALE
Yoods of
Shavano,
Nov 7, 2009,
2:30pm to 5:00pm
to site Woods of
Shavano,
San Antonio

1211 ORILEY DR. FRIDAY
SAT 9am-7 Christmas
Gifts Galore, 1960's Com-
ics, novels, playboy, rugs,
dresses, pressure washer,
desk, much more!

349 PARLAND PL
Estate Sale, Sat 11/7
DR table, chairs, art

826 PATRICIA, 9-6 Fri &
Sat, Collectibles,
China, Jewelry, Books,
Chests, Dresser, Twin
Storage Bed, Desk, Dry
Sink, Boys Clothes, Toys,
Scrubs, Wicker Armors,
Antique Linens 44-3186

351 PERSHING 78209
Appl, Furn, & Clothes
Sat, Nov 7th, 10-12 Noon

511 PILGRIM
Massive Garage Sale!
Fri-Sat Nov 6 & 7

846 GUTMAN OAK
Fri-Sat Nov 6-7, 9-4
Multi-Family, Fridge,
Furn, Tools & More!

2322 CORAL MIST ST
Kirby, Fri-Sat Nov 6-7,
Lots of Glassware, Misc
Items, Some Furniture.

4842 CORIAN
SPRINGS DR, Sat
Nov 7, 9am-3pm, Multi
Family, Lots of Misc

8510 GREYAN ISLE
Olympia Subdivision
Fri-Sat Nov 6-7 @ 9am
Housewares, Clothes,
Toys, Books Galore

3302 EDGE VIEW (In
The Terraces), Baby/Kid
Clothes, Toys, Furniture,
Bikes, Sporting Goods
Sat 9am-4pm

1309 ELI WHITNEY
Schertz, Fri/Sat 8-3
Huge Sale, Gt Bargains

3919 ELMCROFT 78241
HUGE MOVING SALE
Sat. 8-2 & Sun. 8-12

**Northwest SA-
Garage Sales**

4468 ADRIAN 78213, 1
Fam Sale, Sat-Sun 9a-5p
Cash Only, Great Items!

27511 AUTUMN GLEN
in Boerne, Fri-Sat 9-5,
Rem-? Antique Collector
Moving, Lots of Stuff

1222 BAYHORSE DR
Fri-Sat, Elect Range,
New Machine, Sink,
Mechanic & Garden
Tools, Collectibles,
Christmas Items &
Much More!

ROERNE 2018 Special
Large Moving Sale! Huge
Selection, Antiques, Mu-
sic, Furniture, Bargains-
More! 630-249-1460
(Cash) Sat Nov 7th 8-4

BRAUN Heights, 8047
Highlights, SAT
9am-2pm, Moving Sale!

Must Sell - 50% off
Sat 2-3

7110 STONE FENCE
Nov 6-7 Fri-Sat 9-4,
Clothes & Access, Etc,
Cash Only!

10223 TIGER DR Fri 9-5,
SAT 9-2, Camping, furn,
tools, teaching mats, etc

WESTOVER FOREST
Community Garage
Sale, Sat Nov 7, 9-2,
9600 Blk of Portola Blvd
Intersecting with
Winkler Hills Blvd.

1744 W. GRAMMEY
Churchyard, Sat 5-8,
9am-3pm, Sat Nov 7th

3603 WINDSAP DR
Wurzbaugh/Tigra, 3 Fam-
ily Sales, Sat Only

2039 W WOODLAWN
Multi Family Furniture
Bargain, DVD's & More!
Sat Only @ 9am

**SUPER
DEAL**
2 YARD SALES Nov 7th,
1158 Bold Forbes, 78245
Merbach Rd. past 1604.

**South Central SA-
Garage Sales**

ST. ANTHONY CHURCH
YARD SALE, 103 Car-
olinn St. SAT Nov 7, 9a-2p

COMMUNITY YARD
SALE, 9am Waterwood
is having our semi-annual
yard sale. Take 137 S. to
Ex 122, Take 2 lefts & a
right @ the Valero sta-
tion, this follow the signs.

5923 LAKECREST
MEGA GARAGE SALE!
Sat Nov 7th 8am
Everything Will Go!

MCKINLEY & GEVERS
Fri & Sat, 9a-3p, Furn-
itures, Clothes, Etc.
★UNBEATABLE PRICES★

12590 SOUTHERN RD
HUGE SALE! Buyers &
Sellers Nov 6, 7 & 8
210-744-1468

2611 TYNE DR. 78222
Nov. 13th & 14th, 9a-5p
Bargain Bonanza
Yard Sale Extravaganza,
DON'T MISS OUT.

2631 WALLETTA
Between Clark &
Walters, Fri-Sat 9am

5522 ASPEN VALLEY
Star Trek Sale for the
Serious Collectors
Household, Clothes &
Misc, Sat Only 9a-6p

5866 CLIFF PATH
Fri Nov 6-Sat Nov 7
9:00am-2:00pm

610 WEINBERG Off Divi-
sion, SAT 9-5, Lots of
Stuff Too much to list!

San Antonio Express-News
To place an ad: 250-2345

Area Garage Sales

CITY WIDE YD SALE
Nov. 7th, 8am-4pm
Castroville, All over
town, Info Metro
830-931-2525

6 STREET
MINI STORAGE
HUGE YARD SALE
1807 G St.
Horseshoe behind
Best Western Motel.
30+ Families,
1000's of Items!
Sat Nov 7th 8a-5p

2909 RIDGE CROSSING
Bulverde, Fri-Sat
Nov 6-7, Lots of Misc

SAT 11/07/09
9-4, 4911 Evers Rd, SA,
TX 78228, 80rm set,
sofa sleeper,
household items.

SPRING BRANCH Multi
Family Sale, 700blk Deep
Water, Fri 8-4, Sat 8-1

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation
on the following
project: City of San
Marcos-Rio Vista
Terrace Subdivision
Reconstruction Phase
II Underground
Utilities and Streets
BID DATE 11/19/09 -
QUOTES DUE NO
LATER THAN
11/17/09 12:00 PM
Please fax bids to
512-251-2578
Attn: Chris Campbell
or call Chris at
512-251-7872.

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

State Office
Consul./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist./Div Office(s)
Beaumont District
District Engineer
8350 Eastern Freeway
Beaumont, Texas 77705
Phone: 409-892-7311

Laredo District
District Engineer
1817 Bob Bullock Loop
Laredo, Texas 78043
Phone: 356-712-7400

Yokum District
District Engineer
403 Huck St
Yokum, TX 77995-0757
Phone: 361-293-4300

Minimum wage rates are
set out in bidding docu-
ments and the rates will
be part of the contract.
TXDOT ensures that bid-
ders will not be discrimi-
nated against on the
grounds of race, color,
sex, or national origin.

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation
on the following
project: City of San
Marcos-Rio Vista
Terrace Subdivision
Reconstruction Phase
II Underground
Utilities and Streets
BID DATE 11/19/09 -
QUOTES DUE NO
LATER THAN
11/17/09 12:00 PM
Please fax bids to
512-251-2578
Attn: Chris Campbell
or call Chris at
512-251-7872.

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

**CASH
CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY, INC.**
Is soliciting
HUB/MBE/WBE/DBE
bids for participation

Logans/Public Notices

**PUBLIC
MEETING
NOTICE
US 281 EIS**

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (ARMA) is holding the second public scoping meeting regarding transportation improvements to US 281 from Loop 1604 in Borhough Road. The ARMA is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, to analyze potential social, indirect, and cumulative effects to the human and natural environment from the construction and operation of transportation improvements.

The public is encouraged to attend the second EIS public scoping meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, between 5:30 pm and 8:30 pm, at Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The meeting will consist of an open house from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, a presentation at 6:30 pm and small group work sessions beginning at 7:00 pm. Project team members will be available to discuss issues and answer questions regarding the proposed project and the EIS process.

The purpose of this meeting is to introduce and gather public input on the preliminary project alternatives and analysis process proposed to be used in the development of reasonable alternatives that would be considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The public will have the opportunity to make either written or verbal comments to be included in the official EIS public record. Written comments will continue to be received through Monday, November 30, 2009. (Note: the 30-day legal notice, published on October 18, 2009, erroneously stated that comments would be received through Friday, November 30, 2009.) If you are unable to attend the scoping meeting, please submit written comments to Laroy Alley, Director, Community Development, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, 1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78212; you may also submit comments to the ARMA by fax to 210-495-5403 or e-mail US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org.

Your participation is encouraged in this important step of the EIS public process. We appreciate your interest in the proposed project and hope you will attend the second public scoping meeting. All exhibits and project handouts will be presented in English, and Spanish-speaking project team members will be available. If you are interested in attending this event and have special communication or accommodation needs or would like to be added to the project mailing list, contact Laroy Alley at (210) 495-5256 by Tuesday, November 10, 2009. The ARMA will make every reasonable effort to accommodate those needs. For more information regarding US 281 and the EIS project, please visit www.411on281.com.

**NOTICE OF
PUBLIC MEETING
TO DISCUSS**

**PERFECT PART TIME
HOME BUSINESS**, 2hrs/
day earns Financial Free-
dom. For more info call
210-286-7034

Want to make a business
once this will pay you
the rest of your life?
1-877-709-0227

ALL CASH VENDING!
Do you want \$600 in a
day? 25 Low Cost
Machines for \$995.
1-888-625-5193

**Money to Lend/
Financial Services**

ATTN: BUS. OWNERS
Improve Cash
Flow/Sales
No Debt-Use Your
A/R 210-564-0036
www.mvcl.com

Mortgage Note Buyers

WE BUY NOTES
Top Dollar - Fast Service
828-3573

**JOBS
CAREER
DEVELOPMENT**

A NEW Opportunity!
Train in VOCATIONAL
NURSING!
Career Placement
Assistant/Financial Aid
available for those who
qualify. High School
Diploma or GED req'd.
Call now!
1-800-964-3658
depl. 264
Texas Careers
6441 NW Loop 410
San Antonio TX 78230

**DESIGN CAREER
TRAINING!**
Fashion Design and
Marketing Or Graphic
Design Train in less time
than you think. Financial
Aid available for those
who qualify. Training
includes an externship!
International Academy of
Design & Technology
858.351.9111
CALL RIGHT NOW!
4511 Horizon Hill Blvd
San Antonio TX 78229

**HEALTHCARE
TRAINING!**
Sanford-Brown NOW
OPEN IN SAN ANTONIO!
Call today for a free
brochure!
866-975-3444
Sanford-Brown
College
4511 Horizon Hill Blvd.
San Antonio, TX 78229
Sanford-Brown College
does not guarantee
employment or salary

LEARN MORE!
**CAREER
POINT
COLLEGE**
www.careerpointcollege.edu

**Text For Your
Next Job**

**Step in a
Full**

HAPLA
Offering
Educational
Medical
Dental
And
More
Call now for
800-99
Dental

**TIME FOR A
Medical
X-Ray
Dental
or a big
nick
800-12
4738 NW
San Antonio**

**Account
Banking**

**Tax Preparer
for upcoming
No experience
will train. H
plus commu-
es and pa-
Apply at: F
fund Expre
Loop 410, S
Antonio, TX
(210) 5**

**Mark
Adve**

MEDICAL N

**Marketing
needed im
Hovie Res
We are lo
individual
motivat
Marketing
This in
position w
benefits. 95
or yearly
Income
303 E Guin
San Antoi
Fax 210-**

**JOB
TECHN
& ENGI**

Comp

**NET
COOR
Randolph
Det
www.ric
Admin/B
Sup
Services/
Doplar
210-9**

**Did TH
YOU
Are i
details
210-250
1-800-**

To place an

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

Sc

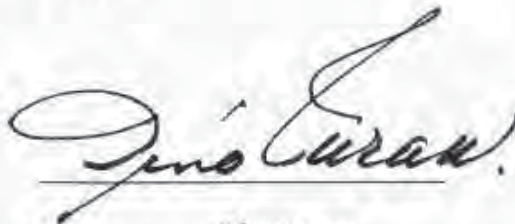
Sc

Sc

STATE OF TEXAS

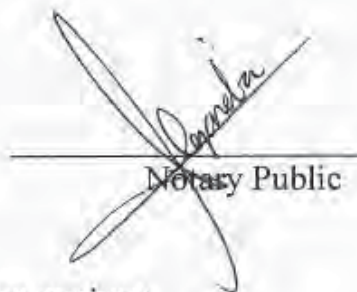
COUNTY OF BEXAR

Before me, a Notary Public in and for Bexar County,
This day personally appeared Tino Duran (Title) Publisher of
La Prensa De San Antonio who being duly sworn by oath, stated
That Alamo Regional Mobility Authority/Smith Associates
Is requesting a publication for Public Hearing US 281 EIS
(Spanish language) and that it ran in La Prensa Bilingual Newspaper
On the following edition, November 8, 2009



Signature

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THE 9th DAY OF
NOVEMBER, 2009


Notary Public

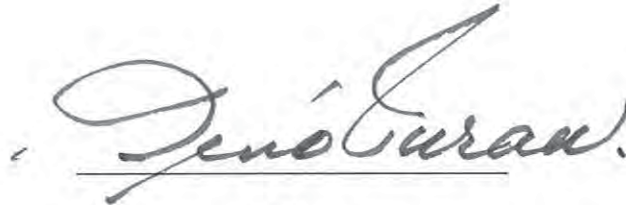
My Commission expires:



STATE OF TEXAS

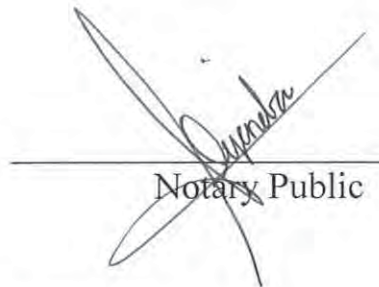
COUNTY OF BEXAR

Before me, a Notary Public in and for Bexar County,
This day personally appeared Tino Duran (Title) Publisher of
La Prensa De San Antonio who being duly sworn by oath, stated
That Alamo Regional Mobility Authority/Smith Associates
Is requesting a publication for Public Hearing US 281 EIS
And that it ran in La Prensa Bilingual Newspaper on the following
Edition, October 18, 2009



Signature

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THE 26th DAY OF
OCTOBER, 2009


Notary Public

My Commission expires:



NOTICIA DE UNA REUNION PUBLICA - US 281 EIS

La Autoridad Regional Alamo de Movilidad (Alamo RMA por sus siglas en inglés) convocará la segunda reunión para explorar y detectar las necesidades respecto a mejoramientos de transporte a la carretera US 281 de Loop 1604 hasta Borgfeld Road. La Alamo RMA está preparando una declaración de Impactos Ambientales (EIS por sus siglas en inglés), de acuerdo con la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA por sus siglas en inglés) de 1969, para analizar posibles impactos directos, indirectos y acumulativos al medio ambiente humano y natural de la construcción y operación de mejoramientos de transporte.

Se anima al público asistir a la segunda reunión para explorar y detectar necesidades el martes, 17 de noviembre de 2009 entre 5:30 p.m. y 8:30 p.m., en el Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. La reunión consistiría en una exhibición abierta al público de las 5:30 p.m. hasta las 6:30 p.m., una presentación a las 6:30 p.m. y sesiones en grupos de trabajo comenzando a las 7:00 p.m. Los integrantes del equipo del proyecto estarán disponibles para contestar preguntas y platicar sobre cuestiones relacionados al proyecto propuesto y el proceso del EIS.

El propósito de esta reunión es de introducir y recoger opiniones respecto a las alternativas preliminares del proyecto y el proceso de análisis que se propone utilizar en el desarrollo de las alternativas razonables que se considerarán en la Declaración Preliminar de Impactos Ambientales.

El público tendrá la oportunidad de dar sus comentarios por escrito o verbales para que se incluyan en el acta oficial público de la EIS. Comentarios por escrito se recibirán hasta viernes, 30 de noviembre de 2009 inclusive. Si usted no puede asistir a la reunión para explorar y determinar necesidades, favor de entregar sus comentarios por escrito a Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, 1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78212; también se puede entregar los

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: San Antonio

Contract 6196-89-001 for PICNIC AREA MAINTENANCE in COMAL County will be opened on November 18, 2009 at 1:30 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$13,500.00.

Contract 6198-96-001 for CONSTRUCT BOX CULVERT in KERR County will be opened on November 18, 2009 at 1:30 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$241,700.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.txdot.gov and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 31074

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

San Antonio District
District Engineer
4615 NW Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78229-0928
Phone: 210-615-1110

ATOD

Se les av
Junta Ge
Ciudad d

El Conda
enviadas

El San A
Béxar. L
Ciudad c
hará una
de bonos

Las casille
usadas p
Votación

Solicitud
de Bexar

Solicitude

ELECC

Monday,
Lunes 19
Saturday
Sabado
Sunday,
Domingo
Monday,
Lunes 20
Thursday

NOI ELECTION

6002009

Elections Administrator, Jacquelyn F. de Bexar

- 9310 Jim Seal Dr.
- 2150 Universal City Blvd.
- 4134 Harry Wurzbach
- 20024 Crescent Oaks
- 4535 Lord Rd.
- 2310 S.W. Military
- West Somerset
- 7650 South 1604
- 900 Saddletree Ct
- 7022 McCullough
- 7001 Culebra
- 1023 Ada Street
- 8700 Mystic Park
- 2809 Broadway
- 515 Castroville Road
- 15060 Judson Road
- 13330 Kyle Seale Parkway
- 7978 W Military Drive
- 9050 Wellwood
- 7286 Dietz Eikhorn
- Springs Road
- 6634 New Sulphur
- 4522 Fredericksburg
- 200 North Park
- 11441 Vance Jackson
- 2805 East Commerce
- 517 S.W. Military
- 530 Helmer Road

vas razonables que se considerarán en la Declaración Preliminar de Impactos Ambientales.

El público tendrá la oportunidad de dar sus comentarios por escrito o verbales para que se incluyan en el acta oficial público de la EIS. Comentarios por escrito se recibirán hasta viernes, 30 de noviembre de 2009 inclusive. Si usted no puede asistir a la reunión para explorar y determinar necesidades, favor de entregar sus comentarios por escrito a Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, 1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78212; también se puede entregar los comentarios a la Alamo RMA por fax al 210-495-5403 o por correo electrónico al US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org.

Se anima su participación en este paso importante del proceso público de la EIS. Apreciamos su interés en el proyecto propuesto y esperamos que asista a la segunda reunión de explorar y detectar las necesidades. Todas las exhibiciones y documentos para distribución se presentarán en inglés e integrantes hispanoparlantes del equipo del proyecto estarán disponibles. Si le interese asistir a este evento y tiene necesidades de comunicación o adecuaciones especiales o desea agregarse a la lista de distribución de información del proyecto, comuníquese con Leroy Alloway al (210) 495-5256 para el martes, 10 de noviembre de 2009. La Alamo RMA hará todo lo posible para acomodar a esas necesidades. Para más información respecto a la carretera US 281 y el proyecto de la EIS, favor de visitar al www.411on281.com.

contractor.
NPO: 31074

State Office

Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)

San Antonio District
District Engineer
4615 NW Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78229
Phone: 210-615-1110

Minimum wage rates are set out in the bid documents and the rates are part of the contract. TXDOT enforces that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, sex, or national origin.

BIDS WANTED

Sealed Bids addressed to the Clerk, City Hall, 100 Military Plaza floor San Antonio, Texas, 78205, received for the **Indefinite Design Contract for Sign Manufacture and Installation** project, in accordance with all bid documents, and specifications on file with the **San Antonio, Office of Planning and Records** 114 W. Commerce, 9th floor Contract Administration, San Antonio, Texas 78205, (210) 207-8031. **NON-REFUNDABLE FEE** of \$100.00 will be required for each set of plans and specifications which are available.

NOTICIA DE UNA REUNION PUBLICA – US 281 EIS

La Autoridad Regional Alamo de Movilidad (Alamo RMA por sus siglas en inglés) convocará la segunda reunión para explorar y detectar las necesidades respecto a mejoramientos de transporte a la carretera US 281 de Loop 1604 hasta Borgfeld Road. La Alamo RMA está preparando una Declaración de Impactos Ambientales (EIS por sus siglas en inglés), de acuerdo con la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA por sus siglas en inglés) de 1969, para analizar posibles impactos directos, indirectos y acumulativos al medio ambiente humano y natural de la construcción y operación de mejoramientos de transporte.

Se anima al público asistir a la segunda reunión para explorar y detectar necesidades el martes, 17 de noviembre de 2009 entre 5:30 p.m. y 8:30 p.m., en el Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. La reunión consistirá en una exhibición abierta al público de las 5:30 p.m. hasta las 6:30 p.m., una presentación a las 6:30 p.m. y sesiones en grupos de trabajo comenzando a las 7:00 p.m. Los integrantes del equipo del proyecto estarán disponibles para contestar preguntas y platicar sobre cuestiones relacionadas al proyecto propuesto y el proceso del EIS.

El propósito de esta reunión es de introducir y recoger opiniones respecto a las alternativas preliminares del proyecto y el proceso de análisis que se propone utilizar en el desarrollo de las alternativas razonables que se considerarán en la Declaración Preliminar de Impactos Ambientales.

El público tendrá la oportunidad de dar sus comentarios por escrito o verbales para que se incluyan en el acta oficial público de la EIS. Comentarios por escrito se recibirán hasta el lunes, 30 de noviembre de 2009 inclusive. (Notar: la noticia legal para avisar al público 30 días antes del evento, que fue publicado el 18 de octubre de 2009, declaró por equivocado que los comentarios se aceptarían hasta el viernes, 30 de noviembre.) Si usted no puede asistir a la reunión para explorar y determinar necesidades, favor de entregar sus comentarios por escrito a Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, 1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78212; también se puede entregar los comentarios a la Alamo RMA por fax al 210-495-5403 o por correo electrónico al US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org.

Se anima su participación en este paso importante del proceso público de la EIS. Apreciamos su interés en el proyecto propuesto y esperamos que asista a la segunda reunión de explorar y detectar las necesidades. Todas las exhibiciones y documentos para distribución se presentarán en inglés e integrantes hispanoparlantes del equipo del proyecto estarán disponibles. Si le interesa asistir a este evento y tiene necesidades de comunicación o adecuaciones especiales o desea agregarse a la lista de distribución de Información del proyecto, comuníquese con Leroy Alloway al (210) 495-5256 para el martes, 10 de noviembre de 2009. La Alamo RMA hará todo esfuerzo razonable para acomodar a esas necesidades. Para más información respecto a la carretera US 281 y el proyecto de la EIS, favor de visitar al www.411on281.com.

Request for Proposals

#0910-910-65-3052

BIDS WANTED

Sealed Bids addressed to the City Clerk, City Hall, 100 Military 2nd floor San Antonio, Texas, will be received for the **Alamo Restroom Remodel** project, accordance with all bid documents and specifications on file with **M. Mok**, 700 n. St. Mary's St. #16 Antonio, Texas 78205 (210) 222-1111. A NON-REFUNDABLE FEE of \$100.00 will be required for each set of bid documents and specifications, which are available at the address above. Bids require bid bond. Contracts awarded through this bid process will require Performance and Completion Bonds in 10% of the contract amount. The City requires that not less than the prevailing wage rate for work of a similar character in this locality shall be paid to all laborers, workmen, and mechanics employed in the construction of this project. Bids will be received in the Office of the City Clerk until **1:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 18th, 2009**, and then they will be opened and read aloud. Any envelopes received after the specified time will be returned unopened. A Non-Material Pre-Submission Conference will be held on Thursday, November 12th, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at Plaza Level, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, South Plaza Entrance from I-35 at Lot A.

/s/ Leticia M. Vacek, TRMC/CM
CITY CLERK

Request for Qualifications Architectural/Engineering Design Services to Develop Bridge Documents for the City of San Antonio Public Safety Headquarters

The City of San Antonio, Capital Improvements Management Services Department is seeking a qualified consultant to perform architectural and engineering design services in connection with the development of design documents for the proposed Public Safety Headquarters that will house both the City's Fire and Police Departments. The bridging documents will be incorporated into the Request for Proposal for Design/Build services for the project. The firm awarded a contract in connection with this solicitation shall

pamper yourself

Fall Specials

Pumpkins are not only for Jack-o-lanterns or Pies! Brighten your looks for fall with a **Vin Enzyme Peel** Filled with Vitamin A and Beta Carotene (Reg. \$25 - Save \$20)

Treat your skin to a healthy glow with a **Pumpkin Rejuvenating Treatment** (Reg. \$75) - Now \$65 - Save \$10

Botox
Complimentary Microdermabrasion with your Botox treatment
Botox* \$11.50 per unit
Microdermabrasion a \$65 value

Pump up your lips for the holidays with **Juvederm**
(Reg. \$590) - Now \$560 per syringe. Save \$30

Ageless

Beauty

Skin Care & Mini Spa

210-696-7522

www.agelessbeautyskincare.us/beautycare/

See Article on
page 39

November 09 • Welcome Home • 78258

www.welcomhomesa.com

Get the 4-1-1 on US 281

You are invited!

2nd Public Scoping Meeting for the US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Spring Hill Event Center

2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261

Open House: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Presentation: 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 pm

For more information visit:

www.411on281.com/US281EIS

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

1222 N Main Ave, Ste 1000 San Antonio 78212

210.495.5256 AlamoRMA.org

by an adult. It's a win-win situation! For participating in the scavenger hunt, you will receive a goodie, gift, or offer from each business you visit and we receive a toy from every player at the Stone Oak Winter Celebration.

Over the years, Stone Oak Winter Festival has become the largest Toys for

Sincerely,

Anna Hoover-Gibson

20770 Hwy. 281 N. Ste. 108-419
San Antonio, Texas 78258
(210) 348-8233 • Fax (210) 497-7342
Email: articles@sabx.it.com
Ad Inquires Email: welcomhome@sabx.it.com
www.welcomhome.com

Welcome
HOME!

Directly Mailed To Over 52,000 Households & Businesses in 78258, 78259, 78248, 78232, 78260 & 78261 Zip Codes. Plus, 15,000 in Rack Distribution.

Welcome Home! newspaper assumes no liability in advertising other than correction and reinstitution of like-size ad at no additional cost to our advertiser. The opinions stated by the writers or the information printed from other sources, do not necessarily depict those of the publisher or advertisers. No liability is assumed by them.

Welcome Home! newspaper will not knowingly publish any advertisement which is illegal, or misleading to its readers. All copy and type arrangements are subject to approval by the publisher. All stories and photos submitted become property of *Welcome Home!*

Editorial and Advertising content of *Welcome Home!* newspaper is protected by the U.S. copyright law. Unauthorized use is prohibited.

Publisher
Cina Groomer-Barbera

Editor
Russell Croomer

Production/Copy Editor
Rachel Ingram

Production/Graphic Design
Russell Croomer
Marie Ferrante

Assistant Editor
Mallory Leque

Office Manager
Neida Hoffmann

Distribution
Israel Vazquez

Sales Representatives
Patrice Long
Brandee Willis
Cina Groomer-Barbera
Rose Stewart
Linda Murray

Contributing Photographers
Sam Roberts
Johnson Booster Club

Staff Writers
Debby Seguin
Suzanne Lennon
Calvin Speer

Contributing Writers
Fran Carlson
Wendy Clark
Jason Gordon
Wendi Green
Jessica Hall
Lisa Hill
Matt Leugers
Jodi Machacek
Alan Matland
Sharon Pinkston

Get the 4-1-1 on US 281

You are invited!

2nd Public Scoping Meeting for the US 281
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Spring Hill Event Center
2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261

Open House: 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Presentation: 6:30 – 7:00 pm
Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 pm

For more information visit:

www.411on281.com/US281EIS

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N Main Ave, Ste 1000 San Antonio 78212
210.495.5256 AlamoRMA.org

November 09 • Welcome Home • 78260/78261

www.welcomhome.com

mer, Elaine was one of three Johnson stu-

médicine as a trauma surgeon.

Get the 4-1-1 on US 281

You are invited!

2nd Public Scoping Meeting for the US 281
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Spring Hill Event Center

2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261

Open House: 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Presentation: 6:30 – 7:00 pm

Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 pm

For more information visit:

www.411on281.com/US281EIS

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

1222 N Main Ave., Ste 1000 San Antonio 78212

210.495.5256 AlamoRMA.org



*Richard Groomer
Cod Father of Seafood
Groomer's Seafood
210-377-0951*

The World Of Fresh Seafood

As Americans become increasingly more health conscious, fresh seafood consumption, including shellfish, is on the rise. While many novice seafood eaters dare not try oysters, it is estimated that over 2.5 billion oysters are consumed by Americans every year.

Oysters are not only delicious, they are also one of the most nutritionally well-balanced foods. Oysters are extremely low in calories and are full of vitamins like A, B1 (thiamin), B2 (riboflavin), B3 (niacin), C, and D. They also contain minerals such as iron, calcium, potassium, and zinc as well as the all important Omega-3 fatty acids. In fact, the National Heart and Lung Institute suggests that oysters be included in low cholesterol diets. However, because raw foods including oysters may carry bacteria, persons with chronic liver disease, impaired immune systems, or cancer should avoid eating raw oysters without first consulting their physician.

Many people are familiar with the adage that oysters should only be eaten in months with an "r" in them. Actually, oysters are good to eat all year long. However, during summer months they are spawning and become thinner and more watery. Oysters are firmer and plumper during the fall and winter months.

Like wines, oysters will taste different

from the same area from year to year for many different reasons. Rainfall, temperature of the water, and mineral content of the bay will all affect an oyster's taste. Oyster connoisseurs refer to the quality and flavor as briny or salty, buttery or creamy. A substantive oyster is meaty or plump. This is why sometimes you will have a great Texas oyster and at other times they will be better from Louisiana or Mississippi. Groomer's Seafood looks for the oysters with the best overall taste, salt content, and quality. Groomer's deals with only certified dealers and our facility and product are inspected each month by a state inspector.

As with all seafood, the fresher the better. Oysters should be eaten as soon as possible from the harvest date in order to enjoy the variety of flavors at their peak. At Groomer's, we receive oysters three times a week from the Gulf Coast and fly them in daily from the east and west coasts. You can purchase Gulf Oysters as well as Malpeques from Canada, Kumamoto's and Hood Canals from Washington, Blue Points from Connecticut, and Beau Soleils and St. Simons out of Prince Edward Island.

We hope that this information has been helpful to you. If you have any additional questions, feel free to come by and we will be happy to answer them for you. Who knows, you may want to consider using oysters in your Thanksgiving stuffing this year!

www.welcometomesa.com

November 09 • Welcome Home • 78259



622 West Hildebrand • 210.734.3023
In Between San Pedro and Blanco

Guitar Tex
Your Local Guitar Store

Happy Birthday To Us!

10 years in San Antonio 1999-2009

Everything Is On Sale All of November!

guitartex.com
822.1595 • 4330 McCullough
(JUST NORTH OF TRAFFIC CIRCLE)

DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE

CURRENT

San Antonio's Leading Scooter Store!!!

THE MOTORCYCLE SHOP

10% OFF MSRP ON ALL 2009 MODELS IN STOCK

2423 Austin Hwy
654.0211 themotorcycleshopsa.com

GET THE 4-1-1 ON US 281

2ND PUBLIC MEETING
US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009
5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Open House: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Presentation: 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 PM

Spring Hill Event Center
2455 Celebration Drive,
San Antonio, Texas 78261

Traveling north on US 281, turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway.

For more information:
www.411on281.com/US281EIS

TOMS

Shoes for Tomorrow

Now carrying TOMS for Men.

Have your TOMS Personalized Here with our in-house TOMS Artist.

ROBERTSON BLVD

18730 Stone Oak PKWY Suite 102
in the Stone Oak Plaza @ 1604 & Stone Oak
494-3230 • robertsonblvdoutique.com

facebook myspace.com

CURRENT | UPFRONT | news & politics

Mysterious motives

What if America's wars are radicalizing Americans?

by Gwynne Dyer

Earlier this year, the Pentagon committed \$50 million to a study investigating why the suicide rate in the military is rising: It used to be below the suicide rate in comparable civilian groups, but now it's four times higher. Thirteen American soldiers were killed by a gunman at Fort Hood in Texas last Thursday, but 75 others have died by their own hand at the same army base since the invasion of Iraq in 2003. Why?

To most people, the answer is obvious. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have been frustrating, exhausting, and seemingly endless, and some people just can't take it any more. But the Pentagon is spending \$50 million to search for other possible causes, because it doesn't like that answer.

The U.S. military budget tops half a trillion dollars, so the military can splash out on diversionary studies that draw attention away from the main problems, which are combat fatigue and loss of faith in the mission. And we are seeing exactly the same pattern in the response to the killings in Fort Hood, although in this case the military is also getting the services of the U.S. media for free.

Let's see, now. A devout Muslim officer serving in the U.S. Army, born in the United States but of Palestinian ancestry, is scheduled to deploy to Afghanistan in the near future. He opens fire on his fellow soldiers, shouting "Allahu akbar." ("God is great" in Arabic.) What can his motive have been? Hard to guess, isn't it? Was he unhappy about his promotion prospects? Hmm.

There is something comic in the contortions that the U.S. media engage in to avoid the obvious fact that if the United States invades Muslim countries, some Muslim-Americans are bound to think that America has declared war on Islam. It has not, but from Pakistan to Somalia the U.S. is killing Muslims in the name of a "war on terror."

Some of them are enemies of the U.S. government, and some of them are innocent civilians. Some of them are even "friendly fire casualties" among soldiers collaborating with the United States, like the Afghan soldiers killed recently in a U.S. airstrike. But every single day since 2003 U.S. soldiers have killed Muslims, and every day those deaths have been reported in the media.

So is it possible that the shooter in Fort Hood, Major Nidal Malik Hasan, who was waiting to ship out to Afghanistan, did not want to take a personal part in that enterprise? Might he belong to that large majority of Muslims (though probably a minority among American Muslims) who, unable to discover any rational basis for U.S. strategy since 9/11, have drifted toward the conclusion that the United States is indeed waging a war on Islam?

Perish the thought! Rather than entertain such a subversive idea, official spokespersons and media pundits in the United States have been trying to come up with some other motive for Major Hasan's actions. Maybe he was a coward who couldn't face the prospect of deployment in Afghanistan. Maybe he was a nut-case whose

actions had no meaning at all. Or maybe he was unhappy at the alleged abuse he had suffered because he was Muslim/Arab/Palestinian.

After a few days during which the commentariat hesitated before competing narratives, the media are settling on the explanation that it was ethnic/racial/religious abuse that drove Nidal crazy. Bad people doing un-American things were ultimately responsible for the tragedy, and there's an end to it.

The one explanation that is excluded is that America's wars in Muslim lands overseas are radicalizing Muslims at home. Never mind that the home-grown Muslim terrorists who attacked the London transport system in 2005, and the various Muslim plotters who have been caught in other Western countries before their plans came to fruition, have almost all blamed the Western

Those invasions made no sense in terms of Western security.

invasions of Muslim countries for radicalizing them.

Never mind, above all, that what really radicalized them was the fact that those invasions made no sense in terms of Western security. No Afghan has ever attacked the United States, although Arabs living in Afghanistan were involved in the planning of 9/11. There were no terrorists in Iraq, no weapons of mass destruction, and no contacts between Saddam Hussein and al-Qaeda. So why did the U.S. invade those countries?

The real reasons are panic and ignorance, reinforced by militaristic reflexes and laced with liberal amounts of racism. But people find it hard to believe that big, powerful governments like those of the United States, Britain, and the other Western powers involved in these foolish adventures could really be so stupid, so the conspiracy theories proliferate.

It is a testimony to the moderation and loyalty of Muslim communities in the West that so few of their members have succumbed to these conspiracy theories. It is evidence of the profound denial that still reigns in the majority community in the United States that the most obvious explanation for Major Nidal's actions didn't even make the media's short list.

I cannot know for sure what moved Major Nidal to do the terrible things he did: each individual is a mystery even to himself. But I do see the U.S. media careening all over the road to avoid the huge and obvious fact that obscures half the horizon. Time to grow up. •

Gwynne Dyer is a London-based independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries.

Bulverde Road upgrades

it will just be a jump back and forth," Lucas said.

"We're not losing capacity on the road to build it. We are going to keep the same lane configuration. It's just that you'll be pushed from one side to the other during construction. We're maintaining the signals and the amount of lanes."

Donnelley said the city is still determining if certain intersections warrant a traffic light. He said Salano/Ridgeway Drive, which intersects Bulverde, is a candidate.

Traffic lights were a hot topic. Some residents expressed a desire for the addition of a traffic light at their intersections while others did not.

Roseheart subdivision resident Keith Gunnell said he would like to see a stoplight at the entrance to his neighborhood, but Donnelley said there are no plans for such a light.

"Right now, the turning movements out of Roseheart didn't warrant a traffic signal, so we

went back and we put in an 350-foot acceleration lane to the south," Donnelley said, adding it would make for a safer exit than the one that exists today.

Vistas of Encino resident Tanya Stockton said she didn't want a light at Salano and Longwood.

"We have enough traffic going through there. I do not want a light at that street. It's too much traffic. People want a shortcut and they speed through the neighborhood," she said.

Donnelley replied that additional lanes should minimize cut-through traffic for subdivisions on this stretch of Bulverde. Gunnell asked if the city plans pedestrian bridges across Bulverde to accommodate foot traffic.

"The only place we are going to have any mobility across Bulverde Road is at controlled intersections, which will have pedestrian walk signals. Other than that, people cross at their own risk," Lucas said. Donnelley did not answer a North Central News request for a construction timeline.

After press time Tuesday night, Clamp co-hosted a public meeting with the city's Planning and Development Services Department at the Shrine of Saint Padre Pio to discuss formation of commercial design standards for the Bulverde Road corridor.

City officials say the proposed design standards would apply to future commercial construction projects along Bulverde between 1604 and Evans, focusing on preserving scenic qualities. Officials added such standards could limit sign height and size, and create unifying standards for building materials and landscaping.

"This is a very important meeting," Clamp said at the Nov. 3 meeting. "If you want your Bulverde Road to develop in an organized, aesthetically pleasing way, you need to come to this meeting because if nothing good happens out of this, there's a possibility it will look like Austin Highway or San Pedro or any number of roads out there."

GET THE 4-1-1 ON US 281

2ND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009

5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Open House: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Presentation: 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 PM

Spring Hill Event Center

2455 Celebration Drive,
San Antonio, Texas 78261

(Traveling North on US 281, turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway)

For more information:

www.411on281.com/US281EIS

Beauty Salon

CONTINUING
EDUCATION

(Classes are in Spanish
Nov 23)*Bacteriology /
Theory (Teoria/ Bacteria)

*Sanitation/ Theory
(Esterilizacion/
Desinfectante)

*Corte de cabello
Practico y Teoria

1032 South St. Mary's St.
(210) 223-0012

que habla español
Llame (210) 291-4047

is your
Newspape

**To advertise in La Prensa
print and web news editions
call now: 210-242-7900**

Recibe la 411 en 281

**LA 2ª REUNIÓN PARA EXPLORAR Y
DETECTAR LAS NECESIDADES PARA
LA DECLARACIÓN DE IMPACTOS
AMBIENTALES (EIS) DE LA US 281**

17 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2009

5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Exhibición Abierta al Público: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Presentación: 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Reunir en grupos de trabajo: 7:00 PM

Spring Hill Event Center

**2455 Celebration Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78261**

(Dirigiéndose hacia el norte por la US 281,
voitée a la derecha inmediatamente antes de llegar
a Overlook Parkway)

Para más información visite:

www.411on281.com/US281EIS

**La
Prensa,
Raíces
en la
Cultura
de
San
Antonio
242
7900**

Holidays

FOR NEW AND CURRENT PATIENTS

- Medical Weight Loss and appetite prescriptions
- \$10 per Botox unit • Natural Weight Loss Supplements • Restylane • Lipodissolve

Injections offered...
HCG, B-12 L-Carnitine & Lipoden

Weight Loss
& Cosmetic Centers

San Antonio, Seguin & New Braunfels:
210.209.9913 & 830.214.7919
Toll Free: 1.888.301.1004
www.wlcsa.com

Get the 4-1-1 on US 281

You are invited!

2nd Meeting for the US 281
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Spring Hill Event Center
2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261

Open House: 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Presentation: 6:30 – 7:00 pm

Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 pm

For more information visit:

www.411on281.com/US281EIS

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N Main Ave, Ste 1000 San Antonio 78212
210.495.5256 AlamoRMA.org

Coushatta Casino
every Saturday
for a limited time
your table plus

in
Its just \$20 with
Not a member? N

Also enjoy 1/2 price
every Sunday t

Lobster But

**Louisiana's
Best Bet!**

We support
responsible gaming. Kinder
Call 877-770-7867 www.coushatta.com

Coushatta Casino Resort is o

ans Day parade... day.
The young Navajo Marines, using secret Navajo language-encrypted military terms, helped the U.S. prevail at Iwo Jima and other World War II Pacific battles, serving in every Marine assault in the South Pacific between 1942 and 1945.

Military commanders said the code, transmitted verbally by radio, helped save countless American lives and bring a speedier

Navajo Marines could decipher it.

Used to transmit secret tactical messages via radio or telephone, the code remained unbroken and classified for decades because of its potential postwar use.

Before the code, the Japanese intercepted and sabotaged U.S. military communications at an alarming rate because they had expert English translators. American

The code, based on ancient Navajo language, changed that. In the first 48 hours of the battle at Iwo Jima, six Code Talkers worked nonstop, transmitting and receiving more than 800 messages about troop movement and enemy fire — none deciphered by the Japanese. What confounded the enemy most was that Code Talkers could use distinctly different words for exactly the same message.

GET THE 4-1-1 ON US 281

2ND PUBLIC MEETING US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Open House: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Presentation: 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Small Group Work Sessions: Start at 7:00 PM

Spring Hill Event Center

2455 Celebration Drive,
San Antonio, Texas 78261

*(Traveling north on US 281, turn right
immediately before Overlook Parkway)*

For more information:
www.411on281.com/US281EIS



Photo by Carlyn Townsend

Pictured left to right are Sonja Harris, RCCC past president, past president Bill Harris and Texas Republican Party Chair Cathie Adams.

Party chairman visits Republicans

Special to the Bulverde News

Cathie Adams, newly elected chairman of the Republican Party of Texas, was the guest

speaker at the Republican Club of Comal County's Oct. 27 meeting.

Adams, who served 16 years as president of the Texas Eagle Forum

gave a presentation on conservative values.

Her presentation was based on the book "Liberty and Tyranny" by best-selling author, Mark R. Levin.

CRASH, from P1

ed to Pearland, near Houston, authorities said.

Lynn Lunsford, a spokesman for the FAA, said the plane was on an instrument flight plan, which means it was in contact with air traffic controllers.

"The aircraft was at about 9,000 feet when (controllers) lost radar

contact," Lunsford said.

The cause of the crash is under investigation but DPS officials said late Sunday that inclement weather and possible aircraft malfunction could be contributing factors. Thunderstorms were in the area.

Debris from the plane was scattered across the private property, but authorities could not confirm if the plane had broken

apart in midair.

The plane is registered to the Gold Cup Pawn Shop in Kerrville on the FAA Web site. A man who answered a phone listed for that address did not want to comment.

Reyes said a trooper would be at the scene until the arrival of investigators from the FAA and National Transportation Safety Board.

GET THE 4-1-1 ON US 281

2ND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009

5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Open House: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Presentation: 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 PM

Spring Hill Event Center

2455 Celebration Drive,
San Antonio, Texas 78261

(Traveling North on US 281, turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway)

For more information:

www.411on281.com/US281EIS

Subject: FW: AirCheck Listing Report



AirCheck News Taping

Broadcast Reports
Clips
Tracking
Content Analysis
Local—National—International



A Service of AirCheck News Taping



85 NE Loop 410, Suite 620—San Antonio, TX 78216—(210) 342-5900—Fax (210) 341-8553—Houston (713) 661-9979
aircheck@airchecknews.com

AirCheck Listing Report

Date Range: 2009/11/17 To 2009/11/18



1. NOV 17 2009 6:00PM CT NEWS 4 SAN ANTONIO AT 6:00PM


Nielsen Audience: 46,161 Calculated Ad Equivalency: \$2,741


[] ORDER


WOAI-NBC SAN ANTONIO, TX, MARKET
RANK: 37

Run Time: 2:23 Calculated Publicity Value: \$8,223

30-Second Ad Equivalency: \$575

[**06:06:55 PM**]  **Preview Clip** WE'LL KEEP YOU POSTED. LIVE AT LACKLAND AFB, MIREYA VILLAREAL TEN YEARS AGO, AN ANNUAL FOOTBALL TRADITION ENDED IN TRAGEDY. THE AGGIE BONFIRE COLLAPSED, KILLING 12 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 19-YEAR-OLD BRYAN MCCLAIN OF **SAN ANTONIO**. STUDENTS WERE BUILDING THE 59-FOOT TOWER OF LOGS WHEN IT CAME CRASHING DOWN EARLY NOVEMBER 18TH 1999. TONIGHT, A&M IS HOSTING A CEREMONY TO REMEMBER THE ACCIDENT, AND NEARLY 10-THOUSAND PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

[**06:07:40 PM**]  **Preview Clip** BUT ALUMNI ARE ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO TAKE PART IN A BLOOD DRIVE. DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO ANY SOUTH TEXAS BLOOD AND TISSUE CENTER. AS PART OF A FRIENDLY BLOOD DRIVE COMPETITION BETWEEN A&M AND U-T. THE DRIVE ENDS ON FRIDAY SOME GOOD NEWS, AND SOME BAD NEWS COMING OUT OF **SAN ANTONIO'S** BOEING SITE TODAY. THE BAD NEWS FIRST, THE COMPANY IS LAYING OFF 250 EMPLOYEES BECAUSE IT LOST A CONTRACT AT THE SAME TIME, BOEING WON A DISPUTED CONTRACT DECISION INVOLVING THE K-C-135 STRATOTANKER PROJECT, AN AERIAL REFUELING PLANE. BOEING SAYS IT HOPES TO REASSIGN SOME OF THE LAID OFF WORKERS TO THE NEW PROJECT.

[**06:08:38 PM**]  **Preview Clip** A DISCUSSION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN ABOUT A HOT TOPIC. THAT TOPIC IS HOW TO RELIEVE CONGESTION ALONG 1604 AS WELL AS 281 NORTH. THE **ALAMO REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY** RIGHT NOW IS HOSTING IT'S SECOND PUBLIC MEETING ON AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY, OR EIS. THE EIS LOOKS AT HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT OPTIONS THAT HAVE THE LEAST IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT. ALL OPTIONS INCLUDING **TOLL ROADS** ARE STILL ON THE TABLE. WHILE YOU'RE OUT SHOPPING FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS, THIEVES WILL BE LOOKING FOR THINGS TO STEAL. NEWS 4 WOAI WANTS TO HELP PROTECT YOUR CAR FROM THEM. TOMORROW, **SAN ANTONIO** POLICE WILL OFFER FREE VIN ETCHING AT CROSSROADS MALL, FROM 9-AM TO 1-PM. THAT'S IN THE PARKING LOT NEXT TO BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY. STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE SOUNDING THE ALARMS ABOUT A DANGEROUS SLEEPING HABIT.

Report Generated:	2009/11/18 07:48:30.960 (CT)
Total Story Count:	1
Total Nielsen Audience:	46,161
Total Run Time:	2:23
Total Calculated Ad Equivalency:	\$2,741
Total Calculated Publicity Value:	\$8,223



PO Box 1201 • Spring Branch • TX • 78070 • Phone: 210-416-2483
Bulverde News • Spring Branch News • Canyon Lake News

NEWS INDEX	VIEWS	BUSINESS / FINANCE	LIFE	A&E
CLASSIFIEDS				

Friday, NOV 20,
2009

SPECIAL
FEATURES
Armed
Forces
Salute
CUSTOMER
SERVICE
Place
Classifieds
FREE
Yellow
Page
Submission
Submit
Events
Submit
Armed
Forces
Submit
Letters
Birth
Announcement

Wedding/Engagement
Useful
Links
Helpful
Numbers
About
Us
Terms
of Use

Contact
Us

News Via
Email

Scoping Meeting Narrows Alternatives for 281 Corridor

By Dixie Page 18, NOV. 09

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) held its second public scoping meeting at the Spring Hill Events Center on the evening of November 17 where 84 people came out to be involved in the process of narrowing down the alternatives for improvements the 281 corridor between Loop 1604 and Borgfeld Road.

These scoping meetings are part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process to develop the "needs and purpose" of improvements to US 281, as well as developing alternatives that will be included as detailed analysis in the Draft EIS to ultimately gain final environmental approval in early 2012.

In August 2009, the first public scoping meeting was held to focus on the "need and purpose" for improvements to the heavily congested corridor. The question at the time was, "What needs should be addressed and which transportation options would meet your needs?"

Based on that meeting and comments stemming from the public, government agencies, and the Community Advisory Committee, four distinct, but interrelated "purposes" were defined for 281 improvements: 1) Addressing Growth; 2) Improve Functionality; 3) Improve Safety; and 4) Enhance Quality of Life.

According to Alamo RMA, the purpose for improvements is further defined by the project objectives which provide specific requirements for evaluating alternatives and a framework to eliminate those alternatives that fail to accomplish the project purpose.

Using comments from the August meeting, Alamo RMA developed a list of 21 preliminary transportation alternatives for 281, ranging from No Build to the use of Heavy Rail, and 16 objectives which provide a framework for screening those alternatives.

Alamo RMA has gone through an initial alternatives screening to determine which alternatives should be carried forward for additional study and presented those findings at the November 17 meeting.

Out of the preliminary list of transportation alternatives, the following were recommended to be carried forward:

1. No Build Alternative would provide a baseline to compare against all build alternatives and would include
 - US 281 Super Street Improvements
 - Upgrade to the Loop 1604/US 281 Interchange
 - All planned short and long range regional transportation improvements (except the US 281 Corridor north of Loop 1604)
 - Short-term minor maintenance and safety improvements to the continued operation of existing US 281 north Loop 1604
2. Light Rail (used in Houston, TX)
 - Medium Capacity, higher speed service in urban areas
 - Operates on steel rail with overhead electric power
 - Can operate in exclusive right-of-ways (either at grade or elevated) and share city streets
3. Street Car (used in Portland, OR)
 - Share city streets to provide circulation or connector services
 - Operates on steel wheels or rubber tires with overhead electric power
4. Fixed Route Bus Service
 - Operates in mixed traffic on existing streets
 - On-board fare collection
 - Frequent stops and wide coverage range

Spring Branch, TX

61°F
Cloudy

hour by hour 10 days

Enter city in U.S. zip

Shannon Roberta Salmon
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Specialized Exclusively to
Immigration Law



Lace & Lasso Salon

A Full Service Salon
OPEN HOUSE
December 4th
3:00-6:00 PM
Join us for
oil minerals
Makeovers
Door Prizes & More
Now you have a choice
for hair care!
830-229-5214
1501 East Shive 100
Briarfield, TX
(800) 555-5555
Lace & Lasso

5. Express Bus Service

- Limited stops and direct routes between clusters of origins and destinations (e.g. suburb to downtown)
- Operates in mixed traffic on existing streets or in HOV Lanes (Dallas and Houston)
- Faster and more expensive than Fixed Route Service

6. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

- Operates in preferential or exclusive bus lanes
- Signal prioritization
- Improved fare collection process
- Easier boarding system
- Enhanced Passenger Information Technology

7. Add Lanes to Existing US 281 Corridor (as seen between Stone Oak Parkway and Evans Road today)

- Additional lanes on existing US 281
- No grade separations or control of access

8. Grade Separated Intersections (as seen with Wurzbach Parkway at Perrin Beitel Road in San Antonio)

- Grade separation at major intersections
- Access to adjacent land use via short frontage roads and driveways
- Does not include continuous frontage roads

9. Expand Parallel Corridors

- Upgrade of Bulverde Road and/or Blanco Road
- Diversion of traffic from US 281 to parallel corridors

10. Upgrade Existing US 281 to Expressway (as seen on US 281 at Donella Drive in San Antonio, just south of Loop 1604)

- Convert US 281 to completely grade separated expressway with continuous frontage roads
- Access to adjacent land uses through continuous frontage roads
- At grade, elevated, and/or depressed options

11. High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) / High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes

- Add additional High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes to existing US 281 Corridor
- Increase vehicle occupancy rates
- Could be reversible by direction

Other Alternatives on US 281:

12. Growth Management

- Focus growth within urban core
- Encourage more efficient land use and reduce trip lengths
- Part of the MPO Long Range Plan

13. Bike & Pedestrian Facilities

- More efficient means of making short trips
- Low Cost
- Reduces congestion
- Promotes healthy lifestyle

14. Transportation System Management (TSM)

- Easily implemented, low capital cost transportation improvements that increase the efficiency of transportation facilities and services. Examples - Improved intersection or signal operation, access management, ride-sharing, and an incident management program

15. Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

- Typically refers to policies, programs, and actions that are directed towards decreasing single occupant vehicle travel. Examples - Area pricing, Mandatory Alternative Work Schedules, or Parking Management.

Alternatives that were eliminated by the screen process included Heavy Rail, Commuter Rail, Monorail, Automated Guideway Transit, Personal Rapid Transit, and a New Parallel Corridor.

Following the alternatives presentation, the audience was broken down into ten small groups for work sessions, where they discussed and completed worksheets that provided opinions on whether specified objectives met any of the four defined purposes; and whether the recommended alternatives met any of the four purposes as well.

There were three main questions Alamo RMA sought answers for from the November 17 meeting:

Do these preliminary alternatives capture the range of alternatives that should be considered in the US 281 corridor?

Do the project objectives define the type of improvements you would like to see in the US 281 corridor?

Do the alternatives that have been carried forward represent options you would like to see studied in more detail?

Once all the answers and comments from the meeting have been compiled and studied, the number of alternatives will have been narrowed down while gaining a higher level of analysis in the screening process. The findings will be discussed at the third scoping meeting.

Those who were unable to attend the November 17 meeting but would like to have their comment included in the record may do so by submitting written comments by November 30, 2009 to:

Leroy Alloway
Director, Community Development
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N. Main Avenue, Suite 1000
San Antonio, TX 78212

After the deadline, comments pertaining to this recent meeting will be placed in the official EIS record and will be available for review at the www.411on281.com/US281EIS website, along with the almost 200 comments from the August meeting.

Upcoming Events...


The following events are tentatively scheduled during the course of the EIS process:


February 2010 - Public Scoping Meeting #3: Recommended Reasonable Alternatives

April 2011 - Public Hearings: Draft EIS

August 2011 - Public Meeting #4: Identification of the Preferred Alternative.

For more information on the US 281 EIS, visit www.411on281.com/US281EIS.

 EMAIL THIS STORY

 PRINT THIS STORY

more . . . Front Page

18.NOV.09 Scoping Meeting Narrows Alternatives for 281 Corridor
18.NOV.09 Petition filed over Justice Center
18.NOV.09 19th Annual Village of Bulverde Christmas Lighting Coming Up
18.NOV.09 Veterans Honored at Library
18.NOV.09 Veterans receive thanks at CHHS
11.NOV.09 Commercial property at Saddleridge gains zoning change approval
11.NOV.09 Kerrville man and grandsons killed in Spring Branch plane crash
11.NOV.09 4-1-1 on 281: Public Meeting for 281 EIS, November 17
11.NOV.09 Daniel Boone Announces Candidacy to Return 'Excellence to Education' in Texas
04.NOV.09 Canyon Lake Mobile Home destroyed by fire
04.NOV.09 Proposed Justice Center is topic of Town Hall Meetings within Comal
04.NOV.09 End of 2009 Ozone Season Finds ACOG Region in Compliance with Federal Air Quality Standards
28.OCT.09 The Ghost of Al Lackey Rides the Night in Blanco County
28.OCT.09 New Ladder Truck is first for Western Comal County
28.OCT.09 SBVFD Board debates over membership meeting and vote procedures for new Bylaws
21.OCT.09 Emergency Service personnel Care Enough to Wear Pink
21.OCT.09 Local Business Owner continues to organize Annual Safe Trick-or-Treat
21.OCT.09 Operation Intervention shows dangers of drunk driving to CHMS students
21.OCT.09 Johnson Ranch Elementary holds Dedication Ceremony
14.OCT.09 Bulverde City Council makes tough decision on Texas 46 Expansion Project
14.OCT.09 Western Comal County to come under Groundwater Conservation District
14.OCT.09 Early Voting starts October 19 on proposed Texas Constitution Amendments
14.OCT.09 RCES students participate in Walk-A-Thon & Health Fair
14.OCT.09 New influenza guidelines recommend all children six months and older get vaccinated

NAS



November 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Search

Submit an Event!

NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT

2nd Public Meeting: US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

WHEN Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 5:30 – 8:30pm

WHERE Spring Hill Event Center
2455 Celebration Drive,
San Antonio, Texas 78261

EVENT TYPE KENS 5 Community

TYPE OF EVENT Meetings

AGE All Ages

COST Free to Public

NOTE The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority wants to hear community comments regarding the preliminary improvement alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor.

www.411on281.com/US281ETS

LINK www.411on281.com



View Full Map

[Add to My Calendar](#) [Forward to Friends](#)

Other Event Actions...

[Back to Previous View](#)

[Print](#) [Permalink](#)

[Mobile](#)
[RSS Feeds](#)
[Twitter](#)
[Newsletters](#)
[Special Offers](#)

Top Video



UTSA student carrying a heavy load...of pot, say police

- Military Charges Nidal Hasan
- Feds to take control of Houston mosque, others across nation
- TDI Fitness Center a safe workout zone for diabetics
- **Forecast:** DENSE FOG ADV. until 10AM.
- FAA database reveals 6,100 problem pilots

[MORE VIDEOS](#)

Your Photos & Videos



Fall Sunday morning walk



Cat wears heart on his sleeve- literally



2009 Start! San Antonio Heart Walk



Air Show Practice Doesn't right

[MORE PHOTOS & VIDEOS](#)



Search This Site

Download: [RSS](#) | [Email Alerts](#) | [SMS Alerts](#) | [Podcasts](#) | [Mobile](#)

[Home](#) [News](#) [Weather](#) [Sports](#) [SA Living](#) [Health](#) [Videos](#) [Business](#) [Traffic](#) [4Savers](#)

November 13, 2009 - 10:36 AM

Hot Topics: [H1N1 Links](#) • [Fort Hood Tragedy](#) • [Free Turkeys](#) • [Food 4 SA](#) • [Pro Football Challenge](#)

Right Now: 65° Mostly Cloudy



Galleries Home : Community Calendar

A great place to tell people about your event. You can now include pictures and video! Click the "Create New Story" link below to get started...

[Create New Story](#)

<< Friday, November 13, 2009 >>													
November, 2009							December, 2009						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30	1	2	3	4	5	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Most Popular

- Two schools placed on lockdown after reports of suspicious group
- Gas stations caught cheating drivers at the pump | [Watch](#)
- Manu Ginobili announces new baby on Twitter | [Watch](#)
- Discuss: 25 students jailed after middle school food fight
- New Rule: Banks need customer consent on overdraft fees

Featured

[News Links](#)

[Blogs](#)

[Ask the Expert](#)

[Trouble Shooters](#)

[Spurs](#)

[What's on TV?](#)

Marketplace

[4Savers](#)

[Buy Tickets](#)

[Video](#)

[Comparative Shopping](#)

[Coupons](#)

[Directory - Seek It Local](#)

[Find a Car - CarSoup](#)

[Free Classifieds - Seek It](#)

[Local](#)

[Jobs](#)

[Lifestyle Guides](#)

[Travel Deals](#)

Community

[Birthday Greetings](#)

[Community Calendar](#)

[Live Chat](#)

[Pump Watch](#)

[SA Opinion Journal](#)

[Your Comments](#)

[Your Photos & Video](#)

Spotlight

[Lottery Results](#)

[Contests](#)

[Real Estate Listings](#)

[Recipes](#)

About Us

[Contacts](#)

Tuesday, November 17, 2009



TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE [Report User](#)

FOR "BEAUTY and the BEAST" LIVE ON STAGE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON @ THE WOODLAWN

0 Votes

Submitted: Tuesday, November 10, 2009 10:02 PM

BEAUTY and the BEAST is coming to the Woodlawn Theatre this Holiday Season - LIVE ON STAGE @ the Woodlawn Theatre. "CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS with the Disney's BROADWAY Classic Tale!" ...



2ND PUBLIC MEETING: 281 [Report User](#)

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

0 Votes

Submitted: Thursday, November 05, 2009 2:52 PM

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority wants to hear community comments regarding the preliminary improvement alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor. Join Us at the 2nd US 281 EIS ...



Sam Ash Music Store Drum [Report User](#)

Circle

0 Votes

Submitted: Saturday, October 31, 2009 10:07 PM

SAM ASH® MUSIC STORES PRESENTS DRUM CIRCLE WITH JORGE OCHOA Jorge Ochoa, QTR, Occupational Therapist, Trained REMO HealthRhythms® Facilitator. Come relieve stress, have fun, and discover your personal rhythm! All ...



Alzheimer's Association 8th [Report User](#)

Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service

0 Votes





mySA calendar

Site | Yellow Pages | Calendar | Archives
Web Search by Yahoo!

NEWS SPORTS SPURS BUSINESS LIFE A&E OBITS FORUMS BLOGS WEATHER REAL ESTATE CLASSIFIEDS

Calendar: What: When:

Subscribe Today!
Save 40% Off Fri-Sun Subscriptions!

events

US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) 2nd Public Scoping Meeting

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority encourages the public to attend this meeting on November 17th to learn more about the US 281 EIS study and to submit comments about options for improving the corridor

Where: Spring Hill Event Center
2455 Celebration Drive, SATX 78261
San Antonio,

When: Open House: 5:30-6:30 pm; Presentation: 6:30-7:00 pm; Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 pm

[View map](#)
[Get directions](#)

On the web:
[More information](#)



Quick Links

[cultural](#) | [green](#) | [health](#) | [military](#) | [moms](#) | [outdoors](#) | [pets](#) | [religion](#) | [visitors' guide](#)

Crimebase

Find police reports by entering Zip code, street name, date or case number:

Obama Urges Homeowners to Refinance

(\$180,000 Refinance under \$939/mo) See Rates - No Credit Check Req.

www.LowerMyBills.com

Refinance Now at 4.25% Fixed

No hidden fees-4.4% APR! No obligation. Get 4 free quotes. No SSN req.

MortgageRates.com

Obama Wants You to Return to School

Get Your Degree Now, Financial Aid & Scholarships are available.

www.alamogordo.edu

Obama Backs Insurance Regulation

Drivers Pay \$44/mo on Avg for Car Insurance. Are you paying too much?

AutoInsuranceQuotes.com



MOST :

Ex-Bucks stop here in Spurs' victory over Mavs
Pressure, pain drove runner to use drug
Your Turn - Nov. 12, 2009
McDyess and friends limit Nowitzki
Fired cop rescinds plea in fatal crash
Mayor willing to dump CPS plan
Police: Man who failed to take woman to hospital arrested
Your Turn - Nov. 13, 2009
Apartment offers a peek at the Fort Hood suspect
Hasan's apartment opens a door on his habits

JOBS

[post resume](#) | [view all](#)

REHAB CASE MANAGER
UNIVERSITY HEALTH SYSTEM
SMALL ENGINE MECHANIC



P.O. Box 1201 • Spring Branch • TX • 78070 • Phone: 210-416-2483
Bulverde News • Spring Branch News • Canyon Lake News

NEWS INDEX	VIEWS	BUSINESS / FINANCE	LIFE	A&E
CLASSIFIEDS				

Thursday, NOV 12, 2009

SPECIAL FEATURES

• Armed Forces Salute

CUSTOMER SERVICE

• Place Classifieds

• FREE Yellow Page Submission

• Submit Events

• Submit Armed Forces

• Submit Letters

• Birth Announcement

• Wedding/Engagement

• Useful Links

• Helpful Numbers

• About Us

• Terms of Use

• Contact Us

• News Via Email

4-1-1- on 281: Public Meeting for 281 EIS, November 17

Special to the Hill Country Times 11 NOV 09

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) is holding its 2nd Public Meeting Tuesday, November 17, at the Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The event is free and the public is encouraged to attend.

The Alamo RMA needs and wants to hear community comments about the Preliminary Alternatives, Project Objectives And Alternatives Screening Process to improve mobility along US 281 corridor from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road.

The event offers:

Open House: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Presentation: 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Small Work Group Sessions: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

As the EIS moves forward, the Alamo RMA continues to host public meetings to engage the community, share information and ask the community for their comments.

At this 2nd EIS Public Meeting, the community has the opportunity to:

- Discuss Preliminary Project Alternatives
- Discuss Project Objectives and Alternatives Screening Process
- Ask Questions and Submit Comments

The community is an integral part of the EIS study, so it is the Alamo RMA's intent to ensure that every concern, idea, suggestion and voice be heard throughout this three-year study. These ideas and options, whether previously proposed or brand new, are open for discussion.

For up-to-date information related to the EIS and other US 281 projects, please visit: www.411on281.com/US281EIS or call (210) 495-5256.

EMAIL THIS STORY PRINT THIS STORY

more on Front Page

11 NOV 09 Commercial property at Saddleridge gains zoning change approval

11 NOV 09 Kerrville man and grandsons killed in Spring Branch plane crash

11 NOV 09 4-1-1- on 281: Public Meeting for 281 EIS, November 17

11 NOV 09 Daniel Boone Announces Candidacy to Return 'Excellence to Education' in Texas

04 NOV 09 Canyon Lake Mobile Home destroyed by fire

04 NOV 09 Proposed Justice Center is topic of Town Hall Meetings within Comal

04 NOV 09 End of 2009 Ozone Season Finds AACOG Region in Compliance with Federal Air Quality Standards

28 OCT 09 The Ghost of Al Lackey Rides the Night in Blanco County

28 OCT 09 New Ladder Truck is first for Western Comal County

28 OCT 09 SBVFD Board debates over membership meeting and vote procedures for new Bylaws

21 OCT 09 Emergency Service personnel Care Enough to Wear Pink

21 OCT 09 Local Business Owner continues to organize Annual Safe Trick-or-Treat

21 OCT 09 Operation Intervention shows dangers of drunk driving to CHMS students

21 OCT 09 Johnson Ranch Elementary holds Dedication Ceremony

14 OCT 09 Bulverde City Council makes tough decision on Texas 46 Expansion Project

14 OCT 08 Western Comal County to come under Groundwater Conservation

Spring Branch, TX

64°F

Sunny

Hourly Outlook 11-09

Enter city or ZIP Code

Shannon Roberts-Simon
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Dedicated Exclusively to
Immigration Law



Lace & Lasso Salon

A Full Service Salon

OPEN HOUSE

December 4th

1:00-5:00 PM

Join us for

old minerals

Makeovers

Door Prizes & More

"Now you have a choice

for your care!"

830-229-5214

1 PM 3351 Suite 100

Borgholm, TX

(Behind Valero)

Click Here

Get the word out on the San Antonio Community Site - Add your GROUP or BUSINESS

Sponsored by

Oppenheimer, Blend, Harrison A

San Antonio Events

San Antonio, TX > San Antonio Events

View by Date

NOVEMBER, 2009

Today						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

View by Timeframe

Upcoming San Antonio Events

This Weekend

Next Weekend

In the past

View by Category

All Categories

Arts and Entertainment
Business and Professional
Clubs and Organizations
Government and Politics
Health and Fitness
Real Estate
Religion and Spirituality
Restaurants
Schools and Libraries
Sports and Recreation
Shops and Stores

[RSS](#) [+ MY Yahoo!](#) [+ Google](#)

All Categories

Tuesday, November 17th

Rotary Club Of San Antonio At The Dominion

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 11:45am
where: San Antonio, TX
from: Rotary Club Of San Antonio At The Dominion
category: Clubs and Organizations

Alamo Heights Rotary Club Meeting

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 12:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: Alamo Heights Rotary Club
category: Clubs and Organizations

Bexar Kiwanis Club Meeting

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 12:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: Bexar Kiwanis Club
category: Clubs and Organizations

Harlandale Lions Club Meeting

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 12:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: Harlandale Lions Club
category: Clubs and Organizations

Weekday Mass

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 12:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: Saint Rose Of Lima Catholic Church
category: Religion and Spirituality

Weekday Mass

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 12:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: San Fernando Cathedral
category: Religion and Spirituality

Zoning Commission Meeting

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 1:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: City of San Antonio
category: Government and Politics

City Commission on Veterans Affairs Meeting

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 3:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: City of San Antonio
category: Government and Politics

San Antonio Guides and Reviews



Most Popular Guides

Real Estate
Jobs
Coupons
Classifieds
Hotel & Travel Deals



Entertainment

Restaurants and Reviews
Movie Times
TV Listings
Things to Do
Tickets



Schools, Government & Community

Train
Bus Schedules
School Delays and Closings
Community Groups
Volunteer Opportunities
Maps
San Antonio Information



More Resources for San Antonio

WiFi
Traffic
Gas Prices
Weather
Yellow Pages Search
White Pages Directory

[See All Resources](#)
[Suggest a Resource](#)

San Antonio Welcomes



- SCORE
- Northwest Hills United Methodist Church
- Grace Coffee Cafe
- Bracken Farmers and Artisans Market
- Pearl Farmers Market
- ERDT/SHARE! High School Exchange Program

[Browse Businesses or Groups](#)
[Add Your Business or Group](#)

VOICEFIVE

Tell us
what
YOU
THINK

by participating

by participating
in a short survey

CLICK HERE

VOICEFIVE

Airport Advisory Commission Meeting

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 3:30pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: City of San Antonio
category: Government and Politics

Public Tour: Museum Highlights

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 4:30pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: San Antonio Museum of Art
category: Arts and Entertainment

Teen Tuesday at Central

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 5:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: San Antonio Public Library - Central Branch
category: Schools and Libraries

2nd PUBLIC MEETING: US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 5:30pm
where: San Antonio, TX
venue: Spring Hill Event Center
category: Government and Politics

ESPNU Road to the Championship

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 6:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
venue: AT&T Center
category: Sports and Recreation

 Buy Tickets for this event

Lackland Independent School District Board Meeting

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 6:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: Lackland Independent School District
category: Schools and Libraries

Meditation Workshop

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 6:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: San Antonio Museum of Art
category: Arts and Entertainment

Sketching in SAMA's Galleries - Led by Ethel Shipton

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 6:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: San Antonio Museum of Art
category: Arts and Entertainment

Story Time

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 6:00pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: Cortez Library
category: Schools and Libraries

Tuesday Evening Service

when: Nov 17, 2009 at 7:30pm
where: San Antonio, TX
from: First United Pentecostal Church Of San Antonio
category: Religion and Spirituality

A Caring Touch - Reflexology, Healing Touch and Massage Therapy

when: Nov 17, 2009 All Day

Real Estate Agents: Be the Local Expert for San Antonio

 Find out more!

Restaurants in San Antonio



American	Italian
Barbeque	Mexican
Breakfast &	Seafood
Diners	Chinese
Cafes	Sushi
Steak	Burgers
Vegetarian	French


 See All Restaurants

Nearby Towns

Universal City Helotes
Converse
See All Cities in Texas

Top Yellow Pages Search for San Antonio

Accountants	Dentists
Auto Dealers	Florists
Beauty and Day	Landscape
Spas	Contractors
Cosmetic	Moving and
Dentists	Storage
Criminal Law	Plumbing
Attorneys	Contractors
Doctors	Real Estate
	Attorneys

 Search Yellow Pages

Are you a part of the Magic Gram? [Sign up](#) or [join now](#). [Why join?](#)



San Antonio's Family Events website

***** Free *****

Get Your \$250 Grocery Card for Free Just Enter Your Zip Code...

www-FreeGasCoupon.com

LISTEN LIVE

NOW PLAYING:

Bubbly
Colbie Caillat

[+] show details

recent on-air advertisers

[Advertiser Sign Up](#) | [Help](#)

[Home](#) [Last Songs Played](#) [Audio/Video](#) [Event Guide](#) [Music](#) [Contests](#) [Photo Gallery](#) [Blogs](#) [Inside](#)

Community Corner

Want to submit a Public Service Announcement? [Complete our PSA form.](#)

Food 4 SA Food Drive

Help collect 1 million pounds of food for needy families in Southwest Texas in the Food 4 SA Fight Against Hunger Campaign to benefit the San Antonio Food Bank. You can donate online or drop off non-perishable food items at any one of the 23 participating Security Service locations anytime during the month of November in San Antonio, Boerne, Schertz or Pleasanton. For more information, go to www.ssfcd.org.

Wine And Steak Dinner

There will be a Wine And Steak Dinner, sponsored by Father Don C. Shepanski on Saturday, November 14th at the McDonald Family Center at St. Matthews Catholic Church, located at 10703 Wurzbach Rd, starting at 6pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults or \$7 for children (ages 3-11). Proceeds benefit Blue Santa, Casa De Padres, and more. Dress casual. For tickets, call Ken at 210-736-1165, 210-884-4849 or email kortensie@sabx.rr.com.

World Diabetes Day Celebration

You are cordially invited to the 3rd Annual World Diabetes Day Celebration on Saturday, November 14th in front of the Texas Diabetes Institute, located at 701 S Zarzamora. The Texas Diabetes Institute and the Tower of Americas will be lit blue in recognition of World Diabetes Day. For more information, call (210) 358-7000 or go to www.texasdiabetesinstitute.com.

New World Wine and Food Festival

Don't miss the New World Wine and Food Festival from November 10th - 15th as they celebrate 10 years as the premiere wine and food festival in San Antonio. Their vast scope of events offer something for everyone, with any level of wine knowledge or culinary tastes. Buy your tickets today at www.nwvff.org or call 210-822-9555 for more information.

PetSmart Charities Holiday Adoption Event

PetSmart Charities Holiday National Adoption Weekend sponsored by PetSmart, Purina Pro Plan and Tidy Cat, and presented by AAPAW (Alamo Area Partners for Animal Welfare) is hosting a San Antonio area-wide Adoption Event on Saturday, November 14th from 11 am to 4 pm and Sunday, November 15th from 12 Noon to 4 pm at the PetSmart store located at Hwy. 281 N and Evans Road. Shelters from in and around San Antonio will have dogs, cats, puppies and kittens for adoption. For more information, call 210-497-6966.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening For High School Athletes

There will be a FREE Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening for High School Athletes on Saturday, November 14th from 9am to Noon at Teksan Heart Hospital. Parent Release Forms at www.teksanhearthospital.com. For more information, call 210-736-6700.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening For High School Athletes

There will be a big Mother's Day Out Rummage Sale on Saturday, November 14th from 9am to 3pm at Oak Meadow United Methodist Church, located at 2740 Hunters Green. Shop for children's toys,

SEVERE WEATHER ALERT



San Antonio weather

Mostly Cloudy

65°F

5-day forecast | [Hurricane Guide](#)

Help feed 750,000 people
dinner this month.

\$10 equals 100 lbs of food towards
our goal of 1 million lbs.

Marketplace



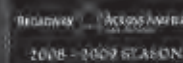
Donate a new, unwrapped toy to the U.S. Marines' [Toys For Toys](#) program!



Help us collect 1 million pounds of food for needy families in Southwest Texas in the [Food 4 SA Food Drive](#) to benefit the San Antonio Food Bank!



Your local ticket provider. Buy sold out tickets to the AT&T Center, the [Sours](#), the [Majestic Theatre](#), and much more!



Join Magic 105.3 for Majestic Theatre's 09/10 [Broadway Across America](#) San Antonio Series to enjoy all your favorite Broadway musicals!



Have you lost a furry family member or found someone else's pet? Post them in our [Pet Finder](#).

books, furniture, computers, clothes, etc. For more information, call 210-492-3902.

NESA West Side Story

North East School of the Arts proudly presents the classic American musical theatre production "West Side Story" as the first Musical Theatre production of the 2009-10 season. Performance dates are November 5th through 8th and 12th through 15th. Curtain time on Thursday, Friday and Saturday is 7:30pm. The Sunday matinees will begin at 2:30. The performances will be held at the Lee High School Theatre, 1400 Jackson Keller Road, and tickets are \$10 for reserved seats and \$12 at the door (cash or check only). For reservations and information, please call the NESA Box Office at 442-2510.

Parkinson's Disease 3rd Boot Camp

The Parkinson's Disease 3rd Boot Camp will take place on Tuesday, November 17th from 9 am to 12 Noon at the Campus of the Jewish Community, Auditorium B & C, located at 12500 NW Military Dr. This free program is designed for newly diagnosed individuals with Parkinson's disease and their support person. For more information, call (210) 349-0096.

Alamo RMA Public Meeting

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) is holding its 2nd Public Meeting on Tuesday, November 17th at the Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The Alamo RMA needs and wants to hear community comments about the Preliminary Alternatives, Project Objectives And Alternatives Screening Process to improve mobility along US 281 corridor from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. The Public is encouraged to attend. For up-to-date information related to the EIS and other US 281 projects, please visit: www.411on281.com/US281EIS or call (210)495-5256.

St. Paul Evangelical Church Wild Game Dinner

St. Paul Evangelical Church invites the community to a Wild Game Dinner on Thursday, November 19th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, or until the food runs out. There will be free food and live praise bands. The location is 108 S. Main St. in Cibola, between Harmon's Barbeque and Cibola City Hall. For more information contact: St. Paul Evangelical Church at 210-658-5874.

Night With NESA Spaghetti Dinner

North East School of the Arts pARTners Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser in conjunction with at the annual Night With NESA takes place on Thursday, November 19th at Robert E Lee High School. Enjoy spaghetti, salad, tea, desserts...then visit their classes and meet their students! For tickets, contact Paul Tinder at 210-557-1187, email pasa@performingartssa.org, or go to www.brownpapertickets.com/event/87657 to purchase tickets online.

Brackenridge High School Class Reunion

Brackenridge High School will hold their Reunion "Gathering Of Eagles" for 1960-1970 classes on November 20th at La Villita Assembly Hall. Music by Canela. For more information, contact Emma at 210-213-5986.

Mutt Strutt 2009

Join celebrity hosts Sean & Claudia Elliott and support your local Humane Society at the Mutt Strutt on Saturday, November 21st. Bring your four-legged companion to the 3 Mile Walk beginning at 8am at the Humane Society of San Antonio, 4804 Fredericksburg Road. Registration Fee is \$25. To create a TEAM you have to first sign up as an individual and then you get the option to create a team. After that is done, others can join your TEAM. For more information, call 210-226-7461 x1111 or visit www.sahumane.org.

Sidney Lanier 35 Year Reunion

The "original" Sidney Lanier Class of '74 is celebrating their 35th Class Reunion on Saturday, November 21st at El Tropicano Hotel in the Coronado Ball Room from 6:30pm to 1:00am. For more information, call (210)661-0552, (210)478-9849, or (210)412-6510.

Family Justice Center

The Family Justice Center needs volunteers weekdays to work two four-hour shifts welcoming clients and helping them access available services. Training is provided. All volunteers must attend an orientation November 21st. For more information, call (210)207-2305.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre Open Auditions

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will hold open auditions for "The Hollow", a mystery by Agatha Christie on Monday and Tuesday, November 23rd and 24th from 7pm to 8:30pm. For further information, call the theatre at (210)222-9694.

Red Robin Food Drive

Full Service Catering

Spare Nothing,
Celebrate In Style and
best of all Spend Less!
www.TheCct.net



Ads by Google

powered by

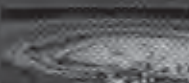


From fast food to fine dining, find it all
in our [Local Business Directory](#)...



Shop for cars, find a dealer, and get
the latest automotive news in our [Local
Car Buying Guide](#) powered by
AustinTrader.com

Intelligence for Your Life



Stay ahead of the storm. Find
evacuation routes, safety tips and
more in the [Hurricane Guide](#)

Family Features

Feed & Recipes Home & Lifestyle
Lawn & Garden



We want to help save you some cash!
Find the [Cheapest Gas Prices](#) in, and
around, San Antonio.



Better sound. New stations. No fees.
[Discover the benefits of HD Radio](#)



LISTEN LIVE!

While you work or surf...

*** Click Here to listen now!**

LISTEN LIVE

Y 100FM
The MOST music online 24/7

NOW PLAYING:

[recent on-air advertisers](#)

[advanced search](#) | [help](#)

[\[+\] show details](#)

[Home](#) [Last Songs Played](#) [On Demand](#) [Events](#) [On-Air](#) [VIP Rewardz](#) [Inside Y100](#) [Contests](#) [Winston & Alyce](#)

Community Corner

Want to submit a Public Service Announcement? [Complete our PSA form.](#)

Food 4 SA Food Drive

Help collect 1 million pounds of food for needy families in Southwest Texas in the Food 4 SA Fight Against Hunger Campaign to benefit the San Antonio Food Bank. You can donate online or drop off non-perishable food items at any one of the 23 participating Security Service locations anytime during the month of November in San Antonio, Boerne, Schertz or Pleasanton. For more information, go to www.ssfcd.org.

Wine And Steak Dinner

There will be a Wine And Steak Dinner, sponsored by Father Don C. Shepanski on Saturday, November 14th at the McDonald Family Center at St. Matthews Catholic Church, located at 10703 Jurzbach Rd, starting at 6pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults or \$7 for children (ages 3-11). Proceeds benefit Blue Santa, Casa De Padres, and more. Dress casual. For tickets, call Ken at 210-736-1165, 210-884-4849 or email kortensie@sabx.tx.com.

World Diabetes Day Celebration

You are cordially invited to the 3rd Annual World Diabetes Day Celebration on Saturday, November 14th in front of the Texas Diabetes Institute, located at 701 S Zarzamora. The Texas Diabetes Institute and the Tower of Americas will be lit blue in recognition of World Diabetes Day. For more information, call (210) 358-7000 or go to www.texasdiabetesinstitute.com.

New World Wine and Food Festival

Don't miss the New World Wine and Food Festival from November 10th - 15th as they celebrate 10 years as the premiere wine and food festival in San Antonio. Their vast scope of events offer something for everyone, with any level of wine knowledge or culinary tastes. Buy your tickets today at www.nwwff.org or call 210-822-9555 for more information.

PetSmart Charities Holiday Adoption Event

PetSmart Charities Holiday National Adoption Weekend sponsored by PetSmart, Purina Pro Plan and Tidy Cat, and presented by AAPAW (Alamo Area Partners for Animal Welfare) is hosting a San Antonio area-wide Adoption Event on Saturday, November 14th from 11 am to 4 pm and Sunday, November 15th from 12 Noon to 4 pm at the PetSmart store located at Hwy. 281 N and Evans Road. Shelters from in and around San Antonio will have dogs, cats, puppies and kittens for adoption. For more information, call 210-497-6966.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening For High School Athletes

There will be a FREE Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening for High School Athletes on Saturday, November 14th from 9am to Noon at Texas Heart Hospital. Parent Release Forms at www.texashearthospital.com. For more information, call 210-736-6700.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening For High School Athletes

There will be a big Mother's Day Out Rummage Sale on Saturday, November 14th from 9am to 3pm at Oak Meadow United Methodist Church, located at 2740 Hunters Green. Shop for children's toys, books, furniture, computers, clothes, etc. For more information, call 210-492-3902.

SEVERE WEATHER ALERT



San Antonio weather

Mostly Cloudy
65°F

[5-day forecast](#) | [Hurricane Guide](#)

sponsored by



Adolphus Rice
New Latin Selections!



FAST FUN FANTÁSTICO
[CLICK FOR RECIPES AND COUPONS!](#)

Marketplace

FRINGE

Submit a caption in the [Fringe Caption Contest](#) for your chance to win a Sony Home Theater System and much more!



Bud Light Texas Music - the artists and the taste that make Texas.

Prime Seat Tickets

Your local ticket provider. Buy sold out tickets to [Concerts](#), the [Cowboys](#), the [Jannetons](#), and the [Sears](#)!



Shop for cars, find a dealer, and get the latest automotive news in our [Local Car Buying Guide](#) powered by AutoTrader.com



[Cowboys Dancehall](#) has two dance floors, Live Music, Concerts, an indoor arena, and a mechanical bull.

[weather.com](#)

NESA West Side Story

North East School of the Arts proudly presents the classic American musical theatre production "West Side Story" as the first Musical Theatre production of the 2009-10 season. Performance dates are November 5th through 8th and 12th through 15th. Curtain time on Thursday, Friday and Saturday is at 8pm. The Sunday matinees will begin at 2:30. The performances will be held at the Lee High School Theatre, 1400 Jackson Keller Road, and tickets are \$10 for reserved seats and \$12 at the door (cash or check only). For reservations and information, please call the NESA Box Office at 442-2510.

Parkinson's Disease 3rd Boot Camp

The Parkinson's Disease 3rd Boot Camp will take place on Tuesday, November 17th from 9 am to 12 Noon at the Campus of the Jewish Community, Auditorium B & C, located at 12500 NW Military Dr. This free program is designed for newly diagnosed individuals with Parkinson's disease and their support person. For more information, call (210) 349-0096.

Alamo RMA Public Meeting

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) is holding its 2nd Public Meeting on Tuesday, November 17th at the Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The Alamo RMA needs and wants to hear community comments about the Preliminary Alternatives, Project Objectives And Alternatives Screening Process to improve mobility along US 281 corridor from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. The Public is encouraged to attend. For up-to-date information related to the EIS and other US 281 projects, please visit: www.411on281.com/US281EIS or call (210)495-5256.

St. Paul Evangelical Church Wild Game Dinner

St. Paul Evangelical Church invites the community to a Wild Game Dinner on Thursday, November 19th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, or until the food runs out. There will be free food and live praise bands. The location is 108 S. Main St. in Cibola, between Harmon's Barbeque and Cibola City Hall. For more information contact: St. Paul Evangelical Church at 210-658-5874.

Night With NESA Spaghetti Dinner

North East School of the Arts pARTners Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser in conjunction with at the annual Night With NESA takes place on Thursday, November 19th at Robert E Lee High School. Enjoy spaghetti, salad, tea, desserts...then visit their classes and meet their students! For tickets, contact Paul Under at 210-557-1187, email pasa@performingartssa.org, or go to www.brownpapertickets.com/event/87657 to purchase tickets online.

Brackenridge High School Class Reunion

Brackenridge High School will hold their Reunion "Gathering Of Eagles" for 1960-1970 classes on November 20th at La Villita Assembly Hall. Music by Canela. For more information, contact Emma at 210-213-5986.

Mutt Strutt 2009

Join celebrity hosts Sean & Claudia Elliott and support your local Humane Society at the Mutt Strutt on Saturday, November 21st. Bring your four-legged companion to the 3 Mile Walk beginning at 8am at the Humane Society of San Antonio, 4804 Fredericksburg Road. Registration Fee is \$25. To create a TEAM you have to first sign up as an individual and then you get the option to create a team. After that is done, others can join your TEAM. For more information, call 210-226-7461 x1111 or visit www.sahumane.org.

Sidney Lanier 35 Year Reunion

The "original" Sidney Lanier Class of '74 is celebrating their 35th Class Reunion on Saturday, November 21st at El Tropicano Hotel in the Coronado Ball Room from 6:30pm to 1:00am. For more information, call (210)661-0552, (210)478-9849, or (210)412-6510.

Family Justice Center

The Family Justice Center needs volunteers weekdays to work two four-hour shifts welcoming clients and helping them access available services. Training is provided. All volunteers must attend an orientation November 21st. For more information, call (210)207-2305.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre Open Auditions

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will hold open auditions for "The Hollow", a mystery by Agatha Christie on Monday and Tuesday, November 23rd and 24th from 7pm to 8:30pm. For further information, call the theatre at (210)222-9694.

Red Robin Food Drive

You can make a difference. Bring in 5 or more canned goods to benefit the Texas Food Bank from November 2nd to 25th to any Red Robin in Selma or San Antonio and receive a coupon for a FREE



Powered by
KUDZU

From fast food to fine dining, find it all in our Local Business Directory.



Donate a new, unwrapped toy to the U.S. Marines' Toys For Tots program!



A historic music venue in it's 60th year. Folks who have played at Elmore's include Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Elvis, Johnny Cash, Willie



Food & Recipes • Home & Lifestyle • Town & Garden



We want to help save you some cash! Find the Cheapest Gas Prices in, and around, San Antonio.



Stay ahead of the storm. Find evacuation routes, safety tips and more in the Hurricane Guide.



Better sound. New stations. No fees. Discover the benefits of HD Radio™.

Are you a part of the KISS Extended Family? Sign in or join now. Why not?



MR. LUCKY'S 2710 N. ST MARY'S
TATTOO

210.736.6900
click here for details

LISTEN LIVE NOW PLAYING: **FM 99.5**
Battery
Metallica
[+] show details

recent on-air advertisers

- Home
- Last Songs Played
- Audio/Video
- Event Guide
- Music
- Contests
- List & Hahn Morning Show
- Inside Kissrocks

Community Corner

Want to submit a Public Service Announcement? [Complete our PSA form](#)

Food 4 SA Food Drive

Help collect 1 million pounds of food for needy families in Southwest Texas in the Food 4 SA Fight Against Hunger Campaign to benefit the San Antonio Food Bank. You can donate online or drop off non-perishable food items at any one of the 23 participating Security Service locations anytime during the month of November in San Antonio, Boerne, Schertz or Pleasanton. For more information, go to www.ssfcu.org.

Wine And Steak Dinner

There will be a Wine And Steak Dinner, sponsored by Father Don C. Shepanski on Saturday, November 14th at the McDonald Family Center at St. Matthews Catholic Church, located at 10703 Wurzbach Rd, starting at 6pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults or \$7 for children (ages 3-11). Proceeds benefit Blue Santa, Casa De Padres, and more. Dress casual. For tickets, call Ken at 210-736-1165, 210-884-4849 or email kortensie@sabx.com.

World Diabetes Day Celebration

You are cordially invited to the 3rd Annual World Diabetes Day Celebration on Saturday, November 14th in front of the Texas Diabetes Institute, located at 701 S Zarzamora. The Texas Diabetes Institute and the Tower of Americas will be lit blue in recognition of World Diabetes Day. For more information, call (210) 358-7000 or go to www.texasdiabetesinstitute.com.

New World Wine and Food Festival

Don't miss the New World Wine and Food Festival from November 10th - 15th as they celebrate 10 years as the premiere wine and food festival in San Antonio. Their vast scope of events offer something for everyone, with any level of wine knowledge or culinary tastes. Buy your tickets today at www.nwwff.org or call 210-822-9555 for more information.

PetSmart Charities Holiday Adoption Event

PetSmart Charities Holiday National Adoption Weekend sponsored by PetSmart, Purina Pro Plan and Tidy Cat, and presented by AAPAW (Alamo Area Partners for Animal Welfare) is hosting a San Antonio area-wide Adoption Event on Saturday, November 14th from 11 am to 4 pm and Sunday, November 15th from 12 Noon to 4 pm at the PetSmart store located at Hwy. 281 N and Evans Road. Shelters from in and around San Antonio will have dogs, cats, puppies and kittens for adoption. For more information, call 210-497-6966.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening For High School Athletes

There will be a FREE Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening for High School Athletes on Saturday, November 14th from 9am to Noon at Teksan Heart Hospital. Parent Release Forms at www.teksanhearthospital.com. For more information, call 210-736-6700.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening For High School Athletes

There will be a big Mother's Day Out Rummage Sale on Saturday, November 14th from 9am to 3pm at Oak Meadow United Methodist Church, located at 2740 Hunters Green. Shop for children's toys,

SEVERE WEATHER ALERT



San Antonio weather
Mostly Cloudy
65°F
5-day forecast | Hurricane Guide

advertisement



No money for school? Use Obama's stimulus bill
If you have been putting off a college education because... More

More Articles

- Do you qualify for a credit card bailout?
- How to view your credit report and scores for free
- Make money running your own online children's store
- Scholarships available for parents going back to school

Advertising provided by: ARALifestyle.com

Marketplace



Donate \$10 or more in the **KISS Holiday Food Drive** for your chance to win front-row Trans-Siberian Orchestra tickets and more!



Play the **KISS Scavenger Hunt** and you could win an Autographed Guitar and other cool prizes!



Submit a photo of your best tattoo in the **99.5 KISS Joose Ultimate Tattoo Contest** for your chance to win a \$200 Rings Of Fire gift certificate!



advertisement

books, furniture, computers, clothes, etc. For more information, call 210-492-3902.

NESA West Side Story

North East School of the Arts proudly presents the classic American musical theatre production "West Side Story" as the first Musical Theatre production of the 2009-10 season. Performance dates are November 5th through 8th and 12th through 15th. Curtain time on Thursday, Friday and Saturday is at 7:30pm. The Sunday matinees will begin at 2:30. The performances will be held at the Lee High School Theatre, 1400 Jackson Keller Road, and tickets are \$10 for reserved seats and \$12 at the door (cash or check only). For reservations and information, please call the NESA Box Office at 442-2510.

Parkinson's Disease 3rd Boot Camp

The Parkinson's Disease 3rd Boot Camp will take place on Tuesday, November 17th from 9 am to 12 Noon at the Campus of the Jewish Community, Auditorium B & C, located at 12500 NW Military Dr. This free program is designed for newly diagnosed individuals with Parkinson's disease and their support person. For more information, call (210) 349-0096.

Alamo RMA Public Meeting

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) is holding its 2nd Public Meeting on Tuesday, November 17th at the Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The Alamo RMA needs and wants to hear community comments about the Preliminary Alternatives, Project Objectives And Alternatives Screening Process to improve mobility along US 281 corridor from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. The Public is encouraged to attend. For up-to-date information related to the EIS and other US 281 projects, please visit: www.411on281.com/US281EIS or call (210)495-5256.

St. Paul Evangelical Church Wild Game Dinner

St. Paul Evangelical Church invites the community to a Wild Game Dinner on Thursday, November 19th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, or until the food runs out. There will be free food and live praise bands. The location is 108 S. Main St. in Cibolo, between Harmon's Barbeque and Cibolo City Hall. For more information contact: St. Paul Evangelical Church at 210-658-5874.

Night With NESA Spaghetti Dinner

North East School of the Arts PARTners Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser in conjunction with at the annual Night With NESA takes place on Thursday, November 19th at Robert E Lee High School. Enjoy spaghetti, salad, tea, desserts...then visit their classes and meet their students! For tickets, contact Paul Tinder at 210-557-1187, email pasa@performingartssa.org, or go to www.brownpapertickets.com/event/87657 to purchase tickets online.

Brackenridge High School Class Reunion

Brackenridge High School will hold their Reunion "Gathering Of Eagles" for 1960-1970 classes on November 20th at La Villita Assembly Hall. Music by Canela. For more information, contact Emma at 210-213-5986.

Mutt Strutt 2009

Join celebrity hosts Sean & Claudia Elliott and support your local Humane Society at the Mutt Strutt on Saturday, November 21st. Bring your four-legged companion to the 3 Mile Walk beginning at 8am at the Humane Society of San Antonio, 4804 Fredericksburg Road. Registration Fee is \$25. To create a TEAM you have to first sign up as an individual and then you get the option to create a team. After that is done, others can join your TEAM. For more information, call 210-226-7461 x1111 or visit www.sahumane.org.

Sidney Lanier 35 Year Reunion

The "original" Sidney Lanier Class of '74 is celebrating their 35th Class Reunion on Saturday, November 21st at El Tropicano Hotel in the Coronado Ball Room from 6:30pm to 1:00am. For more information, call (210)661-0552, (210)478-9849, or (210)412-6510.

Family Justice Center

The Family Justice Center needs volunteers weekdays to work two four-hour shifts welcoming clients and helping them access available services. Training is provided. All volunteers must attend an orientation November 21st. For more information, call (210)207-2305.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre Open Auditions

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will hold open auditions for "The Hollow", a mystery by Agatha Christie on Monday and Tuesday, November 23rd and 24th from 7pm to 8:30pm. For further information, call the theatre at (210)222-9694.

GEICO OFFERS
GREAT SAVINGS AND SERVICE.
GET QUOTE NOW 



Your local ticket provider. Buy and out or premium tickets to the Spurs, the Cowboys and the Cowboys!



Listen to artist interviews, watch videos, and more in the Bud Light Interactive Zone.



Shop for cars, find a dealer, and get the latest automotive news in our Local Car Buying Guide powered by AutoTrader.com.



From fast food to fine dining, find it all in our Local Business Directory.



Donate a new, unwrapped toy to the U.S. Marine's Toys For Tots program!



\$1 DOLLAR DRINK NIGHT
EVERY FRIDAY [click here](#)

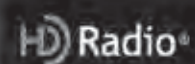
Monday nights at midnight, 99.5 KISS presents Texas Traxx featuring the best in local and national Texas rock!



Check out drink specials, download coupons and more. Stopped in SA features SA's finest Gentlemen's Clubs.



We want to help save you some cash! Find the Cheapest Gas Prices in, and around, San Antonio.



Better sound. New options. No fees. [Discover the benefits of HD Radio™](#)



Stay ahead of the storm. Find evacuation routes, safety tips and more in the Hurricane Guide.

Are you a part of the KONO 101.1 Hit-List? [Sign in or join now](#). [Why join?](#)



A favorite family tradition!

[CLICK FOR RECIPES AND COUPONS!](#)



LISTEN LIVE

NOW PLAYING:

[recent on-air advertisers](#)

[advanced search](#) | [help](#)

KONO 101.1FM
San Antonio's Greatest Hits Online

[\[+\] show details](#)

[Home](#) [Last Songs Played](#) [Audio/Video](#) [Event Guide](#) [Music](#) [Contests](#) [Inside](#) [KONO Savings Club](#)

Community Corner

Want to submit a Public Service Announcement? [Complete our PSA form](#).

Food 4 SA Food Drive

Help collect 1 million pounds of food for needy families in Southwest Texas in the Food 4 SA Fight Against Hunger Campaign to benefit the San Antonio Food Bank. You can donate online or drop off non-perishable food items at any one of the 23 participating Security Service locations anytime during the month of November in San Antonio, Boerne, Schertz or Pleasanton. For more information, go to www.esfcu.org.

Wine And Steak Dinner

There will be a Wine And Steak Dinner, sponsored by Father Don C. Shepanski on Saturday, November 14th at the McDonald Family Center at St. Matthews Catholic Church, located at 10703 Jurzbach Rd, starting at 6pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults or \$7 for children (ages 3-11). Proceeds benefit Blue Santa, Casa De Padres, and more. Dress casual. For tickets, call Ken at 210-736-1165, 210-884-4849 or email kortensie@satx.tx.

World Diabetes Day Celebration

You are cordially invited to the 3rd Annual World Diabetes Day Celebration on Saturday, November 14th in front of the Texas Diabetes Institute, located at 701 S Zarzamora. The Texas Diabetes Institute and the Tower of Americas will be lit blue in recognition of World Diabetes Day. For more information, call (210) 358-7000 or go to www.texasdiabetesinstitute.com.

New World Wine and Food Festival

Don't miss the New World Wine and Food Festival from November 10th - 15th as they celebrate 10 years as the premiere wine and food festival in San Antonio. Their vast scope of events offer something for everyone, with any level of wine knowledge or culinary tastes. Buy your tickets today at www.nwwff.org or call 210-822-9555 for more information.

PetSmart Charities Holiday Adoption Event

PetSmart Charities Holiday National Adoption Weekend sponsored by PetSmart, Purina Pro Plan and Tidy Cat, and presented by AAPAW (Alamo Area Partners for Animal Welfare) is hosting a San Antonio area-wide Adoption Event on Saturday, November 14th from 11 am to 4 pm and Sunday, November 15th from 12 Noon to 4 pm at the PetSmart store located at Hwy. 281 N and Evans Road. Shelters from in and around San Antonio will have dogs, cats, puppies and kittens for adoption. For more information, call 210-497-6966.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening For High School Athletes

There will be a FREE Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening for High School Athletes on Saturday, November 14th from 9am to Noon at Texas Heart Hospital. Parent Release Forms at www.texashearthospital.com. For more information, call 210-736-6700.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Screening For High School Athletes

There will be a big Mother's Day Out Rummage Sale on Saturday, November 14th from 9am to 3pm at Oak Meadow United Methodist Church, located at 2740 Hunters Green. Shop for children's toys, books, furniture, computers, clothes, etc. For more information, call 210-492-3902.

SEVERE WEATHER ALERT



San Antonio weather

Mostly Cloudy

65°F

[5-day forecast](#) | [Hurricane Guide](#)

A favorite family tradition!

[CLICK FOR RECIPES AND COUPONS!](#)

Marketplace

ARTS SA PRESENTS **Municipal Auditorium**
Nutcracker **NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 6**
[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)

Broadway Across America Join KONO 101.1 during the Majestic Theatre's '09 / '10 **Broadway Across America** San Antonio Series, for all of your favorite Broadway shows!

SAN ANTONIO TICKETS Your local ticket provider. Buy sold out tickets to **Concerts**, the **Spurs**, the **Majestic Theatre**, and more!

Inside Healthcare **Inside Healthcare** is your stop for doctors, dentists and hospitals in the San Antonio area.

Powered by **KUDZU** From fast food to fine dining, find it all in our **Local Business Directory**.

[powered by](#)

NESA West Side Story

North East School of the Arts proudly presents the classic American musical theatre production "West Side Story" as the first Musical Theatre production of the 2009-10 season. Performance dates are November 5th through 8th and 12th through 15th. Curtain time on Thursday, Friday and Saturday is at 8pm. The Sunday matinees will begin at 2:30. The performances will be held at the Lee High School Theatre, 1400 Jackson Keller Road, and tickets are \$10 for reserved seats and \$12 at the door (cash or check only). For reservations and information, please call the NESA Box Office at 442-2510.

Parkinson's Disease 3rd Boot Camp

The Parkinson's Disease 3rd Boot Camp will take place on Tuesday, November 17th from 9 am to 12 Noon at the Campus of the Jewish Community, Auditorium B & C, located at 12500 NW Military Dr. This free program is designed for newly diagnosed individuals with Parkinson's disease and their support person. For more information, call (210) 349-0096.

Alamo RMA Public Meeting

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) is holding its 2nd Public Meeting on Tuesday, November 17th at the Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The Alamo RMA needs and wants to hear community comments about the Preliminary Alternatives, Project Objectives And Alternatives Screening Process to improve mobility along US 281 corridor from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. The Public is encouraged to attend. For up-to-date information related to the EIS and other US 281 projects, please visit: www.411on281.com/US281EIS or call (210)495-5256.

St. Paul Evangelical Church Wild Game Dinner

St. Paul Evangelical Church invites the community to a Wild Game Dinner on Thursday, November 19th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm, or until the food runs out. There will be free food and live praise bands. The location is 108 S. Main St. in Cibolo, between Harmon's Barbeque and Cibolo City Hall. For more information contact: St. Paul Evangelical Church at 210-658-5874.

Night With NESA Spaghetti Dinner

North East School of the Arts pARTners' Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser in conjunction with at the annual Night With NESA takes place on Thursday, November 19th at Robert E Lee High School. Enjoy spaghetti, salad, tea, desserts...then visit their classes and meet their students! For tickets, contact Paul Miller at 210-557-1187, email pasa@performingartssa.org, or go to www.brownpapertickets.com/event/87657 to purchase tickets online.

Brackenridge High School Class Reunion

Brackenridge High School will hold their Reunion "Gathering Of Eagles" for 1980-1970 classes on November 20th at La Villita Assembly Hall. Music by Canela. For more information, contact Emma at 210-213-5986.

Mutt Strutt 2009

Join celebrity hosts Sean & Claudia Elliott and support your local Humane Society at the Mutt Strutt on Saturday, November 21st. Bring your four-legged companion to the 3 Mile Walk beginning at 8am at the Humane Society of San Antonio, 4804 Fredericksburg Road. Registration Fee is \$25. To create a TEAM you have to first sign up as an individual and then you get the option to create a team. After that is done, others can join your TEAM. For more information, call 210-226-7461 x1111 or visit www.sahumane.org.

Sidney Lanier 35 Year Reunion

The "original" Sidney Lanier Class of '74 is celebrating their 35th Class Reunion on Saturday, November 21st at El Tropicano Hotel in the Coronado Ball Room from 6:30pm to 1:00am. For more information, call (210)661-0552, (210)478-9849, or (210)412-6510.

Family Justice Center

The Family Justice Center needs volunteers weekdays to work two four-hour shifts welcoming clients and helping them access available services. Training is provided. All volunteers must attend an orientation November 21st. For more information, call (210)207-2305.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre Open Auditions

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will hold open auditions for "The Hollow", a mystery by Agatha Christie on Monday and Tuesday, November 23rd and 24th from 7pm to 8:30pm. For further information, call the theatre at (210)222-9894.

Red Robin Food Drive

You can make a difference. Bring in 5 or more canned goods to benefit the Texas Food Bank from

Adolphus

A favorite
family tradition!

CLICK FOR RECIPES
AND COUPONS!



Shop for cars, find a dealer, and get the latest automotive news in our Local Car Buying Guide powered by AutoTrader.com



We want to help save you some cash! Find the Cheapest Gas Prices in, and around, San Antonio.

Family Features
Food & Recipes Home & Lifestyle
Lawn & Garden



Have you lost a furry family member or found someone else's pet? Post them in our Pet Finder.



Stay ahead of the storm. Find evacuation routes, safety tips and more in the Hurricane Guide.



Better sound. New stations. No fees. Discover the benefits of HD Radio™.

Get the 4-1-1 on US 281

You are invited!

2nd Public Scoping Meeting for the US 281
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

November 17, 2009

5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center

2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261

(Heading north on US 281, turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway)

Open House: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Presentation: 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 p.m.

For more information visit:

www.411on281.com/US281EIS

**Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N Main Ave, Ste 1000 San Antonio 78212
210.495.5256 AlamoRMA.org**



Talking 281 Blog

Thank you for your participation in the US 281 EIS Process!

Posted At : December 2, 2009 5:37 PM | Posted By : Admin

Related Categories: [Environmental Study](#)

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2nd US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting on November 17th. Attendees at the meeting learned about the preliminary range of alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor and the process for evaluating these alternatives. Also, a big thank you to everyone who submitted a comment at the public meeting, or through the EIS web site, the EIS email box (US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org), fax or regular mail. Your comments are a vital part of the EIS process, so we appreciate you taking the time to let us know what you think. Although comments are welcomed anytime during the EIS process, to be included in the public meeting record for the November meeting, comments had to be received by the November 30th deadline. Any comments received after that date will be included in the meeting record for the 3rd public meeting taking place during Spring 2010.

What is the public meeting record? The public meeting record documents all aspects of the public meeting including the purpose of the meeting, how it was publicized, what was presented at the meeting, and the response from the community. All comments received by the November 30th deadline will also be responded to within the second public meeting record. When this record is completed, it will be available for public viewing at www.411on281.com/US281EIS. Everyone who included their contact information with their comment will receive notification once the public meeting record has been posted to the web site. We hope you will check out this meeting record to read what your friends and neighbors think about the alternatives for the US 281 corridor.

Thanks again and we look forward to your continued involvement in the US 281 EIS process!

[Comments \(0\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 9 Views

Join the conversation about the US 281 EIS process & preliminary alternatives being considered

Posted At : November 12, 2009 11:22 AM | Posted By : Admin

Related Categories: [Environmental Study](#)

Plan on attending the second US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting on November 17th! This will be unlike any other public meeting you've attended for the US 281 corridor...here's how it will work:

- There will be display exhibits full of information and EIS team members around to answer your questions from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Spring Hill Event Center. A court reporter and comment cards will be available throughout the meeting if you'd like to submit a comment for inclusion in the

CALENDAR

<< **December 2009** >>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEARCH

SUBSCRIBE

Enter your email address to subscribe to this blog.

RSS

ARCHIVES BY SUBJECT

[Environmental Study \(7\)](#)

[\[RSS\]](#)

[General Announcement \(3\)](#)

[\[RSS\]](#)

[News \(1\)](#) [\[RSS\]](#)

[Super Street \(3\)](#) [\[RSS\]](#)

RECENT ENTRIES

Thank you for your participation in the US 281 EIS Process!

RECENT COMMENTS

What is the "4-1-1"?

another o/s 1604 res. said: 1. the city should have a traffic engineer to help with the traffic flow i.e. timing the lights on ... [\[More\]](#)

Your input has helped shape the US 281 EIS! But we still need your help...

R.L. said: The superstreet seems too confusing and will make drivers waste more gas driving through that area r... [\[More\]](#)

Join the conversation about the US 281 EIS process & preliminary alternatives

EIS public record. Feel free to arrive any time during this open house period, but please make sure you're at the meeting by 6:30.

- At 6:30 p.m. we'll begin a presentation that describes the preliminary range of alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor and the process for evaluating and developing them.
- At 7:00 p.m. we'll break into small working groups of 8 to 10 people. Each group will have a facilitator to guide you through exercises to help you answer the following questions: Do these preliminary alternatives capture the range of alternatives that should be considered in the US 281 corridor? Do the objectives define the type of improvements you would like to see in the US 281 corridor? Do the alternatives that have been carried forward represent options you would like to see studied in more detail?
- Finally at about 8:00 p.m., we'll come back together as a large group to share each other's thoughts and ideas that were discussed in the small groups.

These small working groups are what make this public meeting different from previous meetings, because they give you an opportunity to share with your neighbors, and other users of US 281, what type of improvements you think should be considered for this corridor. If you're one of the many people who want to share your opinion, but you get stage fright speaking in front of large groups, then the November 17th meeting will be a good time to let us know what's on your mind.

As we move forward with the EIS process, alternatives will continue to be evaluated, so now is your chance to participate in the alternatives development process from the beginning. Even if you attended the first public meeting, or you've already submitted a comment, please continue to be involved in the EIS process by attending the November 17th meeting. Remember to tell your friends and neighbors; don't forget your participation is vital to the success of this EIS process...

2nd US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting: November 17, 2009 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Open House: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Presentation: 6:30-7:00 p.m. Small Group Work Sessions: start at 7:00 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center (Traveling north on US 281, turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway) 2455 Celebration Drive San Antonio, Texas 78261

See you there!

[Comments \(1\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 28 Views

Your input has helped shape the US 281 EIS! But we still need your help...

Posted At : November 9, 2009 5:12 PM | Posted By : Admin
Related Categories: [Environmental Study](#)

The first public scoping meeting on August 27, 2009 focused on the need and purpose for improvements within the US 281 corridor. At the first meeting our community was asked, "Which needs should be addressed and which transportation options would best meet your needs within the US 281 corridor?" Based on comments expressed by the public, government agencies, and the Community Advisory Committee a set of four distinct but interrelated purposes were determined for improvements within the US 281 corridor. Any improvements in the US 281 corridor should:

being considered

Guest said: I can't make the meeting, but it seems the money would be better spent on widening 1604 and getting ...

[\[More\]](#)

The Super Street is (still) coming!

D said: so on june 30th the "Super" street was being talked about as still coming.... so now its s... [\[More\]](#)

What is the "4-1-1"?

d said: I thought a blog would be updated at least once a day or at least once a week, this is more of a for... [\[More\]](#)

- Accommodate travel demand by addressing Growth
- Enhance mobility as well as accessibility within the corridor to improve Functionality
- Improve Safety in the corridor
- Enhance Quality of Life for users of US 281 and the surrounding community

Thank you for helping to identify the need and purpose for the EIS study!
BUT, we still really need your help...

Using your comments from the first public scoping meeting we have developed a list of preliminary alternatives for the US 281 corridor north of Loop 1604 and 16 objectives which provide a framework for screening these alternatives. At the public meeting on November 17th, you'll learn about the preliminary range of alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor and the process for evaluating these alternatives.

Most importantly, you'll have an opportunity to participate in the alternatives development process by discussing what long-term solutions you'd like to see implemented on US 281.

The format of the November 17th meeting will be different from the first EIS public meeting in August. At this November meeting, you'll be able to have a conversation and share ideas with other users of US 281 about the preliminary range of alternatives being considered. Be on the lookout for this Wednesday's blog to get all the details so you're ready to participate in the conversation on November 17th.

Please mark your calendars for this important meeting...Your comments will continue to help shape the future of the US 281 corridor!

2nd US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting: November 17, 2009, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Open House: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Presentation: 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Small Group Work Sessions: start at 7:00 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center (Traveling north on US 281, turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway) 2455 Celebration Drive San Antonio, Texas 78261

[Comments \(1\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 31 Views

Why does the EIS study process have to take so long?

Posted At : November 2, 2009 2:38 PM | Posted By : Admin

Related Categories: [Environmental Study](#)

Many of you who drive US 281 everyday are probably asking yourself this question. The answer is that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the most robust and comprehensive environmental clearance process which includes high-level public involvement and coordination with multiple agencies and organizations, along with the detailed analysis of impacts of proposed improvement alternatives. An average EIS analysis is completed in about five years; however the Alamo RMA has made a commitment to the community to complete the US 281 EIS process in three years, bringing a long-term solution sooner rather than later to one of the most congested corridors in the country. Conducting an EIS will ensure that all alternative improvement options (additional lanes, overpasses, transit, etc.) are available for consideration by the public.

Future blogs will focus on and give you more information about the preliminary range of improvement alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor and the process for evaluating and developing them. We hope you will participate so that you can learn about the types of preliminary alternatives being considered.

Please join us ...

2nd US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting November 17, 2009 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Open House: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Presentation: 6:30-7:00 p.m. Small Group Work Sessions: start at 7:00 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center (Heading north on US 281, turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway) 2455 Celebration Drive San Antonio, Texas 78261

We look forward to seeing you there!

[Comments \(0\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 14 Views

What's been going on with the US 281 EIS?

Posted At : October 9, 2009 12:41 PM | Posted By : Admin

Related Categories: [Environmental Study](#)

Hello 411-on-281 visitors! This blog is now dedicated to the US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) study. Please visit this blog regularly to stay up-to-date on what's happening with the US 281 EIS. If you'd like to keep up with the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA), please visit the Director of Community Relations Leroy Alloway's blog at <http://voices.mysanantonio.com/leroyalloway/>.

Whether you've been following the US 281 EIS study from the beginning, or you're just now learning about the study, thank you for taking the time to visit this web site and become involved! For this study to be a true success, it's imperative for the community to participate every step of the way.

A lot has been going on in the last month...The first US 281 EIS Public Meeting was held on August 27 to discuss the need and purpose for this study. If you were unable to attend this meeting, click on "Environmental Impact Statement" on the main 411on281 page to view meeting documents and materials. The EIS team is currently reviewing comments received from the first community meeting. They're also reviewing comments received from this web site (www.411on281.com/US281EIS), the US 281 EIS email (US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org), and faxed and mailed-in comments to the Alamo RMA address. Almost 200 comments were received prior to the September 8th deadline. These comments are now being placed into the official EIS record for this first meeting and once finalized, this record will be available for you to review on the official US 281 EIS web site. This will give you a chance to read what your friends and neighbors are thinking about the need and purpose for improving the US 281 corridor.

Although the first comment deadline has passed; Please continue to submit comments! All comments received now will be included in the official EIS record for the next public meeting. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for mid-November. We'll be sure to let everyone know once this date and location have been finalized. In the meantime, check back to this web site regularly to stay up-to-date on what's happening with the US 281 EIS.

Don't forget to also follow us on Twitter and add 411-on-281 as your friend on Facebook!

[Comments \(0\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 32 Views

On 281...it's a car, it's a truck...no wait, it's the Super Street!

Posted At : June 16, 2009 6:07 PM | Posted By : Admin
Related Categories: [Super Street](#)

We are quickly approaching June 30, and the Community Open House on the US 281 Super Street project. We are looking forward to helping answer questions the community has on how the Super Street project will impact traffic on US 281, and what type of travel savings the community can hope to see from this project.

[\[More\]](#)

[Comments \(13\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 479 Views

The Super Street is (still) coming!

Posted At : June 5, 2009 12:28 PM | Posted By : Admin
Related Categories: [Super Street](#)

One of the questions we are hearing more and more of is "what happened to the super street?"

Contrary to rumors or myths, the Super Street isn't dead. The Super Street wasn't shelved to push another agenda. The Super Street wasn't abandoned at all.

[\[More\]](#)

[Comments \(2\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 307 Views

Spring is in the air - have you seen me flying?

Posted At : April 29, 2009 6:08 PM | Posted By : Admin
Related Categories: [Environmental Study](#)

A key part of any Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the requirement to follow the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA asks us to take an in depth look at endangered or threatened species and prevent them from harm or elimination of their natural habitats. For the 281 corridor, this is of critical importance.

Two endangered birds who share the same 281 corridor with our community, from spring through early fall, are the Golden-cheeked Warbler and the Black-capped Vireo. For over 20 years both birds have been listed and protected as part of the Endangered Species Act.

[\[More\]](#)

[Comments \(2\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 261 Views

Are toll roads the only solution the Alamo RMA can provide for traffic congestion?

Posted At : April 10, 2009 11:37 AM | Posted By : Admin
Related Categories: [General Announcement](#)

The Alamo RMA exists to provide solutions to efficiently move traffic using innovative financing and to accelerate needed projects so that we can relieve congestion today, instead of waiting decades, as we would using

more traditional methods. It brings local leadership to local transportation issues.

Regional Mobility Authorities were established in Texas to provide new ways to construct mobility improvements by using local money to leverage revenue bonds. RMA's can build, operate and maintain a wide variety of transportation projects including light rail, and toll roads. The Alamo RMA can undertake any project that moves people, goods or services, as long as there is a way to pay for the project. We don't have the power to levy a property or sales tax so our funding sources are limited but our ability to help is bound only by imagination.

[\[More\]](#)

[Comments \(6\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 595 Views

How can we reach out and become involved with our community?

Posted At : April 6, 2009 4:50 PM | Posted By : Admin

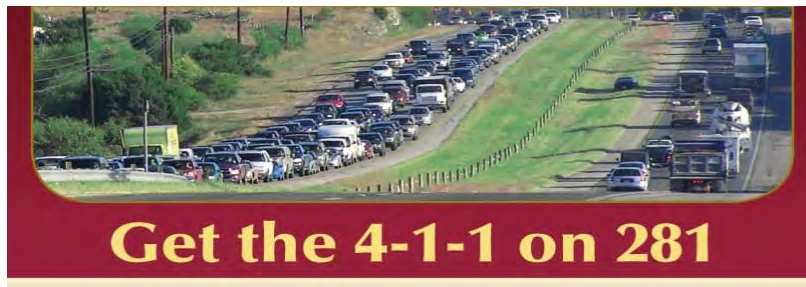
Related Categories: [General Announcement](#)

In transportation projects, and really, in all large-scale public improvements, one of the most consistent criticisms is that the public and the community around the project doesn't know it's happening until bulldozers show up to start moving dirt. The Alamo RMA wants to make sure that doesn't happen with any improvement project we are working on for US 281.

[\[More\]](#)

[Comments \(0\)](#) | [Print](#) | [Send](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [Linking Blogs](#) | 186 Views

[More Entries](#)



US 281 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) 2ND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

- WHEN:** November 17, 2009
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Open House: 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Presentation: 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Small Group Work Sessions: start at 7:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** Spring Hill Event Center
2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261
(Traveling north on US 281, turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway)

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Join the conversation about the US 281 EIS process and the preliminary range of alternatives being considered...

Plan on attending the second US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting on November 17th! This will be unlike any other public meeting you've attended for the US 281 corridor...here's how it will work:

- There will be display exhibits full of information and EIS team members around to answer your questions from **5:30 to 6:30 p.m.** at the Spring Hill Event Center. A court reporter and comment cards will be available throughout the meeting if you'd like to submit a comment for inclusion in the EIS public record. Feel free to arrive any time during this open house period, but please make sure you're at the meeting by 6:30.
- At **6:30 p.m.** we'll begin a presentation that describes the preliminary range of alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor and the process for evaluating and developing them.
- At **7:00 p.m.** we'll break into small working groups of 8 to 10 people. Each group will have a facilitator to guide you through exercises to help you answer the following questions:
 - Do these preliminary alternatives capture the range of alternatives that should be considered in the US 281 corridor?
 - Do the objectives define the type of improvements you would like to see in the US 281 corridor?
 - Do the alternatives that have been carried forward represent options you would like to see studied in more detail?
- Finally at about **8:00 p.m.**, we'll come back together as a large group to share thoughts and ideas that were discussed in the small groups.

These small working groups are what make this public meeting different from previous meetings, because they give you an opportunity to share with your neighbors, and other users of US 281, what type of improvements you think should be considered for this corridor. If you're one of the many people who want to share your opinion, but you get stage fright speaking in front of large groups, then the November 17th meeting will be a good time to let us know what's on your mind.

As we move forward with the EIS process, alternatives will continue to be evaluated, so now is your chance to participate in the alternatives development process from the beginning. Even if you attended the first public meeting, or you've already submitted a comment, please continue to be involved in the EIS process by attending the November 17th meeting. Remember to tell your friends and neighbors; don't forget your participation is vital to the success of this EIS process...

Join the EIS process, make your voice heard by commenting

We want to hear your comments regarding the preliminary alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor. While comments are welcome anytime during the EIS process, written comments must be received by November 30, 2009, to be included in the official public record for this meeting. Otherwise, your comments will be included in the official record for the next meeting. There are numerous ways to submit your written comments:

- **Fill out a comment card** at the public meeting on November 17th
- **Web site:** www.411on281.com/US281EIS, click on "EIS Comments"
- **Email:** US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org
- **Fax:** 210-495-5403
- **Mail:** Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority,
1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78212

We look forward to seeing you on **November 17th**!

For more information on the US 281 EIS, please visit: www.411on281.com/US281EIS
Follow the 4-1-1 on 281 on:



Newsletter

The 4-1-1 on 281

THE LATEST ON THE US 281 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NOVEMBER 2009

What have we completed so far in the EIS Process?



US 281 north of Loop 1604 is a six-lane and then a four-lane divided highway with traffic lights.

The first public scoping meeting in August 2009 focused on the **need and purpose** for improvements within the US 281 corridor.

At the first meeting our community was asked, "Which needs should be addressed and which transportation options would best meet your needs within the US 281 corridor?"

Based on comments expressed by the public, government agencies, and the Community Advisory Committee, a set of four distinct, but interrelated **purposes** were determined for improvements within the US 281 corridor. Any improvements in the US 281 corridor should:

- Accommodate travel demand by addressing **Growth**
- Enhance mobility as well as accessibility within the corridor to improve **Functionality**
- Improve **Safety** in the corridor
- Enhance **Quality of Life** for users of US 281 and the surrounding community

The purpose for improvements is further defined by the project objectives that provide specific requirements for evaluating alternatives and a framework to eliminate those alternatives that fail to accomplish the project purpose. These objectives will be presented in detail at the November 17th meeting.

What have we done since the last meeting?

Using your comments from the first public scoping meeting, we have developed a list of preliminary

alternatives for the US 281 corridor north of Loop 1604 and 16 objectives, which provide a framework for screening these alternatives. We have gone through an initial alternatives screening to determine which alternatives should be carried forward for additional study.

We need your help answering these three questions on November 17th:

- Do these preliminary alternatives capture the range of alternatives that should be considered in the US 281 corridor?
- Do the project objectives define the type of improvements you would like to see in the US 281 corridor?
- Do the alternatives that have been carried forward represent options you would like to see studied in more detail?

Below is a flowchart representing the screening process for preliminary alternatives that we are currently working through and shows the next steps to be completed between now and the next public meeting.



As we move forward with the alternatives screening process, your comments will continue to help shape the future of the US 281 corridor.



Comments, Comments, Comments

Almost 200 comments were received before, during and after the August public scoping meeting and prior to the September 8th deadline. These comments are now being placed into the official EIS record for the first public scoping meeting and once finalized, this record will be available for you to review at www.411on281.com/US281EIS. This will give you an opportunity to read what your friends and neighbors would like to see considered as improvements to the US 281 corridor. All comments received now will be included in the official EIS record for the second public scoping meeting on November 17th.

Join the EIS process, make your voice heard by commenting!

US 281 EIS Community Advisory Committee

The US 281 EIS Community Advisory Committee is composed of members of the community who live and work along the US 281 corridor as well as representatives of civic, community and environmental groups, educational institutions, and businesses with an interest in the corridor. At the first Committee meeting on August 20, 2009, members made a commitment to the charter and their role and responsibilities as a Community Advisory Committee member. Additionally, information was presented about the EIS process, the need and purpose for improvements, the timeline for major milestones and the Committee's role in the process.

The next Community Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2009 at Methodist Stone Oak Hospital from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Although this meeting is open to the public, it is a working meeting specifically for Committee members. Only Committee members will be able to participate in group discussions. The Community Advisory Committee will continue to meet throughout the duration of the EIS process.

Visit www.411on281.com/US281EIS and click on the Community Advisory Committee button to review meeting materials and relevant documents.



ALAMO RMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Public Scoping Meeting #2: Preliminary Alternatives

- Do the preliminary alternatives capture the range of alternatives that should be considered within the US 281 corridor?
- Do the objectives define the type of improvements that you would like to see within the corridor?
- Do the alternatives that have been carried forward represent options you would like to see studied in more detail?

Tuesday, November 17, 2009
5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Open House: 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Presentation: 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Small Group Work Sessions: 7:00 PM

***Spring Hill Event Center**
2455 Celebration Drive
San Antonio, TX 78261

** Travel North on US 281. Turn right immediately before Overlook Parkway.*

JOIN US TO:

- Discuss Preliminary Project Alternatives
- Discuss Project Objectives and Alternatives Screening Process
- Ask Questions and Submit Comments!

If you would like to attend the meeting and have special communication or accommodation needs, please contact: Alamo RMA at 210.495.5256 by Thursday, November 12th.

If you are unable to attend this meeting and would like your comment included in the record, submit your written comments to the Alamo RMA by November 30, 2009 (approximately ten days following the Public Scoping Meeting date, with consideration for the Thanksgiving holiday).

Please email comments to:

US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org

Or mail to:

Leroy Alloway
Director, Community Development
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N Main Avenue, Suite 1000
San Antonio, Texas 78212

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following events are tentatively scheduled during the course of the EIS process:

- February 2010
Public Meeting #3: Recommended Reasonable Alternatives
- April 2011
Public Hearing: Draft EIS
- August 2011
Public Meeting #4: Identification of the Preferred Alternative

**The increased timeframe between public meeting #3 and the public hearing is necessary to allow the EIS team to complete detailed analyses of impacts of the reasonable alternatives and prepare the Draft EIS. During this time, Community Advisory Committee meetings and public involvement activities will be conducted to keep everyone informed and engaged throughout this part of the EIS process.*

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I want to start by thanking you for taking the time to get involved with the US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Whether you attended the last public scoping meeting, submitted comments, or visited the EIS web site, your participation is vital to the success of this process.

Many of you are still probably wondering... "Why does the EIS process have to take so long?" An EIS is the most robust and comprehensive environmental process, which includes high level public involvement and coordination with multiple agencies and organizations, along with the detailed analysis of impacts of proposed improvement alternatives. An average EIS analysis is completed in about five years; however the Alamo RMA has made a commitment to the community to complete the US 281 EIS process in three years; bringing a long-term solution sooner rather than later to one of the most congested

corridors in the county. Conducting an EIS will ensure that all alternative options are available for consideration by the public.

In this newsletter you'll learn about the preliminary range of alternatives being considered for the US 281 corridor and the process for evaluating and developing them. To learn more and participate in the alternatives development process, please join us on November 17th at the second public scoping meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,



Dr. William E. Thornton
Chairman, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority



www.AlamoRMA.org
www.411on281.com
US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org

Contact Us:
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N Main Ave, Suite 1000
San Antonio, Texas 78212
(210) 495-5256

Stay Informed and Get Involved!

Thank you to everyone who has already participated by submitting a comment, visiting the web site or attending the first public scoping meeting. Please continue to stay involved and ask your neighbors and friends to participate too! Your comments and participation continue to be vital to the success of the EIS process.

Remember, there are different ways to provide comments:

- Attend the public scoping meeting on November 17, 2009
- Visit the web site at www.411on281.com/US281EIS
- Send an Email to US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org
- Fax comments to (210) 495-5403
- Mail comments to the Alamo RMA (see address below)

*Although social media such as Twitter, Facebook, and blogs are used to share information about the EIS process with the community, please do not submit comments to these sites. To ensure your comment is included in the official EIS record, only submit comments in the ways listed above.



ALAMO RMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority



Get the 4-1-1 on 281


ALAMO RMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
AlamoRMA.org
411on281.com

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority | 1222 N Main Ave, Suite 1000 | San Antonio, Texas 78212 | 210.495.5256

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Accu-Print

el 411 de 281

LO ULTIMO DE LA DECLARACION DE IMPACTOS AMBIENTALES DE LA US 281 Noviembre de 2009

¿Qué hemos completado hasta la fecha en este proceso de la EIS?



US 281 al norte de Loop 1604 es una carretera dividida de seis carriles y luego una carretera dividida de cuatro carriles con semáforos.

La primera reunión pública para detectar y explorar las necesidades en agosto de 2009 se enfocó en las necesidades y el propósito de los mejoramientos dentro del corredor de US 281. En la primera reunión, se le preguntó a nuestra comunidad, "¿A cuáles necesidades se debe dirigir y cuales opciones de transporte cumplirán mejor con sus necesidades dentro del corredor de US 281?" Basándose en los comentarios expresados por el público, las agencias gubernamentales, y el Comité Asesor de la Comunidad, una colección de cuatro propósitos, distintos pero relacionados, fueron determinados para los mejoramientos dentro del corredor US 281. Cualquier mejoramiento en el corredor de US 281 debe:

- Acomodar la demanda de viajes por dirigirse a la cuestión del aumento de población y empleos
- Aumentar la movilidad así como el acceso dentro del corredor para mejorar la funcionalidad
- Mejorar la seguridad en el corredor
- Aumentar la calidad de vida para usuarios del corredor de US 281 y la comunidad a su alrededor

¿Qué hemos hecho desde la última reunión?

Usando sus comentarios de la primera reunión pública para detectar y explorar las necesidades hemos redactado una lista de alternativas preliminares para el corredor de US 281 al norte de la Loop 1604 y 16 objetivos que proveen un marco para revisar estas alternativas. Hemos pasado por una revisión inicial de las alternativas para

determinar cuales de las alternativas deben seguir adelante en el proceso para más estudio.

Necesitamos su ayuda para contestar estas tres preguntas el 17 de noviembre:

- ¿Estas alternativas preliminares captan el rango de alternativas que se deben de considerar para el corredor de US 281?
- ¿Los objetivos definen el tipo de mejoramientos que Ud. quisiera ver en el corredor US 281?
- ¿Las alternativas que seguirán adelante representan opciones que a Ud. le gustaría que se estudiarán con más detalle?

A continuación hay una organigrama que representa el proceso de revisión de las alternativas preliminares que actualmente estamos trabajando e indica los próximos pasos que se completarán entre ahora y la próxima reunión pública.



Mientras seguimos adelante con el proceso de revisar las alternativas, sus comentarios seguirán dándole forma al futuro del corredor US 281.



Comentarios, Comentarios, Comentarios

Casi 200 comentarios se recibieron antes, durante y después de la reunión pública para detectar y explorar las necesidades en agosto y antes del plazo de entrega del 8 de septiembre. Ahora están agregando estos comentarios al registro público oficial de la EIS para la primera reunión pública para detectar y explorar las necesidades y ya que está finalizado, este registro estará disponible para que Ud. pueda revisarlo en www.411on281.com/US281EIS. Esto le dará la oportunidad para leer lo que sus amigos y vecinos desean ver como mejoramientos al corredor de US 281. Todos los comentarios recibidos ahora se incluirán en el registro oficial de la EIS para la segunda reunión pública para explorar y detectar necesidades el 17 de noviembre.

¡Reúname al proceso de la EIS; haga escuchar su voz haciendo su comentario!

US 281 EIS Comité Asesor de la Comunidad

El Comité Asesor de la Comunidad de la EIS de US 281 tiene como miembros personas de la comunidad que viven y trabajan por el corredor de US 281 así como representantes de grupos cívicos, comunitarios y medio ambientales, instituciones educativas y negocios con interés en el corredor. En la primera reunión del comité el 20 de agosto de 2009, miembros se comprometieron a la carta de roles y responsabilidades como miembro del Comité Asesor de la Comunidad. Además, se les presentó información respecto al proceso de la EIS, la necesidad y propósito de los mejoramientos, el cronograma de hitos mayores y el rol del comité en el proceso.

La próxima reunión del comité está programado para el 4 de noviembre de 2009 en el hospital Stone Oak Methodist de las 6:00 hasta las 8:00 p.m. Aunque la reunión está abierta al público, es una reunión específicamente para trabajar con los miembros del comité. Solo los miembros del comité podrán participar en las discusiones de los grupos. El Comité Asesor de la Comunidad continuará reuniéndose durante todo el proceso de la EIS.

Visite www.411on281.com/US281EIS y haga clic en el botón para el Comité Asesor de la Comunidad para ver los materiales de la reunión y los documentos relevantes.



ALAMO RMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

CÓMO PARTICIPAR

Reunión Pública para Detectar y Explorar las Necesidades #2: Alternativas Preliminares:

- ¿Las alternativas preliminares captan la variedad de alternativas que se deben considerar dentro del corredor de la US 281?
- ¿Los objetivos definen el tipo de mejoramientos que Ud. quisiera ver dentro del corredor?
- ¿Las alternativas que continúan representan opciones que Ud. quisiera ver estudiado con más detalle?

17 de noviembre de 2009
5:30 – 8:30 PM

Exhibición Abierta al Público: 5:30-6:30 PM
Presentación: 6:30-7:00 PM
Sesiones de Trabajo en Grupos Pequeños: 7:00 PM

*Spring Hill Event Center
2455 Celebration Drive
San Antonio, TX 78261

*Viaje hacia el norte por US 281. Vóltate inmediatamente antes de llegar a Overlook Parkway.

VENGA A LA REUNIÓN PÚBLICA PARA DETECTAR Y EXPLORAR LAS NECESIDADES A:

- Platicar sobre las alternativas preliminares
- Platicar sobre los objetivos y el proceso de revisión de las alternativas
- ¡Hacer preguntas y someter comentarios!

Si le interesa asistir a este evento y tiene necesidades de comunicación o adecuaciones especiales, favor de comunicarse con el Alamo RMA al (210) 495-5256 para el jueves, 12 de noviembre de 2009.

Si Ud. no puede asistir a esta reunión y desea que su comentario se incluya en el registro, somete sus comentarios por escrito al Alamo RMA para el 30 de noviembre de 2009 (aproximadamente diez días después de la fecha de la reunión pública para detectar y explorar las necesidades, con consideración del día festivo de Thanksgiving.)

Favor de mandar los comentarios por correo electrónico a: US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org

O por correo a:

Leroy Alloway
Director, Community Development
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N Main Avenue, Suite 1000
San Antonio, Texas 78212

Para más información respecto a la carretera US 281 y el proyecto de la EIS, favor de visitar al www.411on281.com.

EVENTOS PRÓXIMOS

Los eventos a continuación están programados provisionalmente durante el curso del proceso de la EIS:

- Febrero de 2010 – Reunión Pública #3: Alternativas Razonables Recomendadas
- Abril de 2011 – Audiencia Pública: Declaración Preliminar de Impactos Ambientales
- Agosto de 2011 – Reunión Pública #4: Identificación de la Alternativa Preferida

*El plazo de tiempo entre la reunión pública #3 y la audiencia pública se necesita para permitir que el equipo de la EIS complete un análisis detallado de los impactos de las alternativas razonables y prepara la EIS Preliminar. Durante este tiempo, las reuniones del Comité Asesor de la Comunidad y actividades de participación pública serán conducidas para mantener a todos informados y involucrados durante esta parte del proceso de la EIS.

Estimados Amigos y Vecinos,

Quiero comenzar por darles las gracias por tomar el tiempo para involucrarse en la Declaración de Impactos Ambientales (EIS por sus siglas en inglés) de la carretera US 281. No importa si fue por asistir a la primera reunión pública para explorar y detectar las necesidades, transmitir comentarios, o visitar el sitio web, su participación es fundamental para el éxito de este proceso. Muchos de ustedes probablemente están preguntando todavía...¿por qué toma tanto tiempo el proceso de la EIS? Una EIS es el proceso ambiental más sólido y extenso que incluye un nivel alto de participación pública y coordinación con varias agencias y organizaciones, junto con un análisis detallado de impactos de alternativas de mejoramientos propuestas. El promedio de tiempo que se toma una EIS es de cinco años; sin embargo, la Autoridad Regional de Movilidad Alamo (la Alamo RMA por sus siglas en inglés) se ha comprometido con la comunidad para completar el proceso de la EIS de US 281 en tres años, lo cual traerá una solución de largo plazo más temprano a uno de los corredores más

congestionados del país. Realizar una EIS asegurará que las opciones de las alternativas están disponibles para que el público los considere.

En este boletín Ud. aprenderá de la variedad de alternativas preliminares que se están considerando para el corredor US 281 y el proceso para evaluar y desarrollarlas. Para aprender más y participar en el proceso para el desarrollo de las alternativas, venga por favor a la Segunda Reunión para Explorar y Detectar las Necesidades el 17 de noviembre. ¡Ojalá nos vemos allí!

Sinceramente,

Dr. William E. Thornton
Chairman, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority



Comuníquese con Nosotros
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N Main Ave, Suite 1000
San Antonio, Texas 78212
(210) 495-5256
www.AlamoRMA.org
www.411on281.com
US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org

Manténgase Informado y Participe

Gracias a todos que han participado por someter un comentario, visitar el sitio web o asistir a la primera reunión pública para explorar y detectar las necesidades. ¡Por favor sigue involucrándose e invite a sus vecinos y amigos a participar también! Sus comentarios y participación siguen siendo fundamentales para el éxito del proceso de la EIS. Acuérdese que hay distintos mecanismos para proveer sus comentarios:

- Asistir a la reunión pública para detectar y explorar las necesidades el 17 de noviembre
- Visitar el sitio web en www.411on281.com/281EIS
- Mandar un correo electrónico al buzón electrónico para la 281 EIS al US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org
- Mandar sus comentarios por fax al (210) 495-5403
- Mandar sus comentarios por correo a la Alamo RMA (véase la dirección a continuación)

Aunque los medios sociales como Twitter, Facebook y los blogs se usan para compartir información respecto al proceso EIS con la comunidad, favor de no someter comentarios a estos sitios. Para asegurar que sus comentarios estén incluidos en el registro oficial de la EIS, sólo somete comentarios de la manera indicada anteriormente.

Consiga el 411 de 281

ALAMO RMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority



Alamo Regional Mobility Authority | 1222 N Main Ave, Suite 1000 | San Antonio, Texas 78212 | 210.495.5256

Presorted
Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Accu-Print

Letters to Elected Officials



November 5, 2009



Dear Congressman Gonzalez:

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) will hold the second public scoping meeting regarding transportation improvements to US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. The Alamo RMA is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, to analyze potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the human and natural environment from the construction and operation of transportation improvements.

The public is encouraged to attend the second EIS public scoping meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, between 5:30 pm and 8:30 pm, at Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261. The meeting will consist of an open house from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, a presentation at 6:30 pm and small group work sessions beginning at 7:00 pm. Project team members will be available to discuss issues and answer questions regarding preliminary alternatives and the EIS process.

The purpose of this meeting is to introduce and gather public input on the preliminary project alternatives and analysis process proposed to be used in the development of reasonable alternatives that would be considered in the Draft EIS.

Please feel free to contact Leroy Alloway or Lisa Adelman at 210.495.5256 with any questions regarding this second public scoping meeting for the US 281 EIS.

Sincerely,

Terry M. Brechtel
Executive Director

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N. Main Avenue, Suite 1000 San Antonio, Texas 78212
(210) 495-5256 (210) 495-5403 Fax
www.AlamorMA.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DR. WILLIAM E. THORNTON
CHAIRMAN

M. CRISTINA RODRIGUEZ
VICE-CHAIR

REYNALDO L. DIAZ, JR.
SECRETARY/TREASURER

JAMES R. REED

ROBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

ROBERT S. THOMPSON

CHRISTEL VILLARREAL

TERRY M. BRECHTEL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Elected Official Mailing List for US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting #2

Last Name	First Name	Position	Street Address	City, State, Zip
Gonzalez	Charles	20 th Congressional District of Texas	United States House of Representatives B-124 Federal Bldg. 727 E. Durango	San Antonio, TX 78206
Smith	Lamar	21 st Congressional District of Texas	United States House of Representatives 1100 NE Loop 410 Ste 640	San Antonio, TX 78209
Rodriguez	Ciro	23 rd Congressional District of Texas	1950 SW Military Drive	San Antonio, TX 78221
Cuellar	Henry	28 th Congressional District of Texas	615 E. Houston Street Suite 451	San Antonio, TX 78205
Casteel	David	Assistant Executive Director for District Operations, Texas Department of Transportation	125 East 11th Street	Austin, TX 78701
Russell	Phillip	Assistant Executive Director for Innovative Project Development, Texas Department of Transportation	125 East 11th Street	Austin, TX 78701
Rodriguez	Sergio "Chico"	Bexar County Commissioner, Precinct 1	100 Dolorosa Suite 1.20	San Antonio, TX 78205
Elizondo	Paul	Bexar County Commissioner, Precinct 2	100 Dolorosa, Suite 1.20	San Antonio, TX 78205
Wolff	Kevin	Bexar County Commissioner, Precinct 3	100 Dolorosa, Suite 1.20	San Antonio, TX 78205
Adkisson	Tommy	Bexar County Commissioner, Precinct 4	100 Dolorosa, Suite 1.20	San Antonio, TX 78205
Wolff	Nelson, W.	Bexar County Judge	100 Dolorosa, Suite 1.20	San Antonio, TX 78205
Bresnahan	Letti	Board Member, North East ISD	8961 Tesoro Drive, Suite 602	San Antonio, Texas 78217
Bristow	Randy	Board Member, North East ISD	8961 Tesoro Drive, Suite 602	San Antonio, Texas 78217
Galindo	Susan	Board Member, North East ISD	8961 Tesoro Drive, Suite 602	San Antonio, Texas 78217
Hughey	Sandy	Board Member, North East ISD	8961 Tesoro Drive, Suite 602	San Antonio, Texas 78217
Perkins	Brigitte	Board Member, North East ISD	8961 Tesoro Drive, Suite 602	San Antonio, Texas 78217
Plummer	Beth	Board Member, North East ISD	8961 Tesoro Drive, Suite 602	San Antonio, Texas 78217
White	Ed	Board Member, North East ISD	8961 Tesoro Drive, Suite 602	San Antonio, Texas 78217
Patterson	Carol	Board Member, District 1 Edwards Aquifer Authority	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas 78215
Miller	Byron	Board Member, District 2 Edwards Aquifer Authority	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas 78215
Rice	George	Board Member, District 3 Edwards Aquifer Authority	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas 78215
Youngblood	Benjamin	Board Member, District 4 Edwards	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas

Elected Official Mailing List for US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting #2

Last Name	First Name	Position	Street Address	City, State, Zip
		Aquifer Authority		78215
Ellis	Ron	Board Member, District 5 Edwards Aquifer Authority	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas 78215
Hughes	Susan	Board Member, District 6 Edwards Aquifer Authority	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas 78215
Valdivia	Enrique	Board Member, District 7 Edwards Aquifer Authority	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas 78215
Lovett	John	Board Member, District 8 Edwards Aquifer Authority	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas 78215
Allen	Martin	Board Member, District 9 Edwards Aquifer Authority	1615 N. St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, Texas 78215
Pickett	Joe	Chair, House Committee on Transportation	Texas House of Representatives, P.O. Box 2910	Austin, TX 78768
Carona	John	Chairman, Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security	Texas Senate, P.O. Box 12068 Capitol Station	Austin, TX 78711
Mitchell	Seth	Chief of Staff, Bexar County	Bexar County Judge's Office, 100 Dolorosa	San Antonio, TX 78205
Morales	Frank	City Administrator, City of Hill Country Village	116 Aspen Lane	San Antonio, TX 78232
Durand-Hollis	Gabriel	Council Member, Place 2, City of Hill Country Village	116 Aspen Lane	San Antonio, TX 78232
Worley	Elizabeth	Council Member, Place 3, City of Hill Country Village	116 Aspen Lane	San Antonio, TX 78232
Evans	George R. "Rick"	Council Member, Place 4, City of Hill Country Village	116 Aspen Lane	San Antonio, TX 78232
Mayberry	Margaret	Council Member, Place 5, City of Hill Country Village	116 Aspen Lane	San Antonio, TX 78232
Simmons	Jeff	Director of Public Works, City of Hill Country Village	116 Aspen Lane	San Antonio, TX 78232
Register	Carl A.	Mayor Pro Tem, Place 1, City of Hill Country Village	116 Aspen Lane	San Antonio, TX 78232
Riley	Chris	Mayor, City of Leon Valley	6400 El Verde Road	Leon Valley, TX 78238
Cisneros	Mary Alice P.	City Council Member, District 1	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Taylor	Ivy R.	City Council Member, District 2	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Ramos	Jennifer V.	City Council Member, District 3	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Cortez	Philip A.	City Council Member, District 4	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Medina	David	City Council Member, District 5	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Lopez	Ray	City Council Member, District 6	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Rodriguez	Justin	City Council Member, District 7	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Williams	W. Reed	City Council Member, District 8	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Chan	Elisa	City Council Member, District 9	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283

Elected Official Mailing List for US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting #2

Last Name	First Name	Position	Street Address	City, State, Zip
Clamp	John G.	City Council Member, District 10	City of San Antonio, P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Lambert	Lanny	City Manager, City of Leon Valley	6400 El Verde Road	Leon Valley, TX 78238
Francis	Kirk, W.	City of Hill Country Village	116 Aspen Lane	San Antonio, TX 78232
Parma	Jim	Mayor, City of Selma	9375 Corporate Drive	Selma, TX 78154
Littlepage	Tiffany	City Secretary, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163
Alamia	Janice	City Secretary, Town of Hollywood Park	2 Mecca Drive	San Antonio, TX 78232
Eccleston	Donna	Comal County Commissioner, Precinct 1	199 Main Plaza	New Braunfels, TX 78130
Millikin	Jay	Comal County Commissioner, Precinct 2	199 Main Plaza	New Braunfels, TX 78130
Parker	Gregory	Comal County Commissioner, Precinct 3	199 Main Plaza	New Braunfels, TX 78130
Kennady	Jan	Comal County Commissioner, Precinct 4	199 Main Plaza	New Braunfels, TX 78130
Scheel	Danny	Comal County Judge	199 Main Plaza	New Braunfels, TX 78130
Martinez	Isidro	Director, San Antonio Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization	825 South St. Mary's Street	San Antonio, TX 78205
Brown	Julia	Deputy District Engineer, San Antonio District, Texas Department of Transportation	P.O. Box 29928	San Antonio, TX 78229
Medina	Mario	District Engineer, San Antonio District, Texas Department of Transportation	P.O. Box 29928	San Antonio, TX 78229
Aceves	Joe, A.	County Engineer, Infrastructure Services, Bexar County	233 North Pecos, Ste 420	San Antonio, TX 78207
Boyer	Victor	Executive Director San Antonio Mobility Coalition	13526 George Road Suite 107	San Antonio, TX 78230
Saenz	Amadeo	Executive Director, Texas Department of Transportation	125 East 11th Street	Austin, TX 78701
Perry	Rick	Governor of the State of Texas	State of Texas, P.O. Box 12428	Austin, TX 78711
Muñoz III	Henry	Chairman VIA Board of Trustees	P. O. Box 12489 800 W. Myrtle	San Antonio, TX 78212
Dewhurst	David	Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas	P.O. Box 12068 Capitol Station	Austin, TX 78711
Jeffrey	Ray	Mayor, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163
Hobson	John	City Administrator, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163
Harrison	Kirk, W.	Councilman, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163
Hurst	Robert, W.	Councilman, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163
Reynolds	Shane	Councilman, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163
Mitchell	Dannette	Councilwoman, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163

Elected Official Mailing List for US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting #2

Last Name	First Name	Position	Street Address	City, State, Zip
Nowak	John	Director, Public Works, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163
Cole	Pamela	Mayor Pro Tem, City of Bulverde	30360 Cougar Bend	Bulverde, TX 78163
Castro	Julian	Mayor, City of San Antonio	City of San Antonio P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78283
Wilson	Duane	President / CEO, North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce	12930 Country Parkway	San Antonio, TX 78216
Cavazos	Ramiro	President, San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	318 W. Houston St. Suite 300	San Antonio, TX 78205
Straus	Joe	Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, District 121	Texas House of Representatives, 7373 Broadway 202-A	San Antonio, TX 78209
Martinez Fischer	Trey	State Representative, District 116	Texas House of Representatives, 1910 Fredricksburg Road	San Antonio, TX 78201
Leibowitz	David	State Representative, District 117	Texas House of Representatives, 9107 Marbach Rd Suite 111	San Antonio, TX 78245
Farias	Joe	State Representative, District 118	Texas House of Representatives, 660 SW Military Drive	San Antonio, TX 78221
Gutierrez	Roland	State Representative, District 119	Texas House of Representatives, 3319 Sidney Brooks	San Antonio, TX 78235
McClendon	Ruth	State Representative, District 120	Texas House of Representatives, 403 S.W. W White Road Suite 210	San Antonio, TX 78219
Corte	Frank	State Representative, District 122	Texas House of Representatives, 2040 Babcock Suite 402	San Antonio, TX 78229
Villarreal	Michael	State Representative, District 123	Texas House of Representatives, 1114 S. St. Mary's Suite 110	San Antonio, TX 78210
Menendez	Jose	State Representative, District 124	Texas House of Representatives, 7121 US Highway 90 West Suite 240	San Antonio, TX 78227
Castro	Joaquin	State Representative, District 125	Texas House of Representatives, 6502 Bandera Suite 106	San Antonio, TX 78238
Miller	Doug	State Representative, District 73	387 W. Mill Street	New Braunfels, TX 78130
Uresti	Carlos	State Senator, District 19	Texas Senate, 2530 SW Military Drive Ste 103	San Antonio, TX 78224
Zaffirini	Judith	State Senator, District 21	Texas Senate, 12702 Toepperwein Road Suite 214	San Antonio, TX 78233
Wentworth	Jeff	State Senator, District 25	Texas Senate, 1250 NE Loop 410 Suite 925	San Antonio, TX 78209
Van de Putte	Leticia	State Senator, District 26	Texas Senate, 700 N. St. Mary's Street Suite 1725	San Antonio, TX 78205
Middleton	Richard	Superintendent, North East ISD	8961 Tesoro Drive, Suite 602	San Antonio, Texas 78217
Holmes	Ned	Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission	125 East 11 th Street	Austin, TX 78701

Elected Official Mailing List for US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting #2

Last Name	First Name	Position	Street Address	City, State, Zip
Meadows	William	Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission	125 East 11 th Street	Austin, TX 78701
Underwood	Fred	Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission	125 East 11 th Street	Austin, TX 78701
Delisi	Deirdre	Chairwoman, Texas Transportation Commission	125 East 11 th Street	Austin, TX 78701
Houghton	Ted	Commissioner, Texas Transportation Commission	125 East 11 th Street	Austin, TX 78701
Perez	Richard	President, The Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce	602 E. Commerce	San Antonio, TX 78205
McIlveen	Richard	Mayor, Town of Hollywood Park	2 Mecca Drive	San Antonio, TX 78232
Cornyn	John	Senator, U.S. Senate	600 Navarro, Suite 210	San Antonio, TX 78205
Hutchison	Kay Bailey	Senator, U.S. Senate	145 Duncan Drive, Suite 120	San Antonio, TX 78226
Hornseth	Tom	County Engineer, Comal County		
Vacek	Leticia M.	City Clerk, City of San Antonio	P.O. Box 83966	San Antonio, TX 78238
Al-Ghafry	Majed	Director of Public Works, City of San Antonio	P.O. Box 83966	San Antonio, TX 78238
Roberts	Kenneth	City Administrator, City of Selma	9375 Corporate Drive	Selma, TX 78154
Weeper	Bill	Councilman, City of Selma	9375 Corporate Drive	Selma, TX 78154
Miller	Gary	Council Member Place 1, Town of Hollywood Park	2 Mecca Drive	Hollywood Park, TX 78232
Alkire	Ellen	Council Member Place 2, Town of Hollywood Park	2 Mecca Drive	Hollywood Park, TX 78232
McCallum	Tim	Council Member Place 3, Town of Hollywood Park	2 Mecca Drive	Hollywood Park, TX 78232
Treu	Steve	Council Member Place 4, Town of Hollywood Park	2 Mecca Drive	Hollywood Park, TX 78232
Sartor	Bob	Council Member Place 5, Town of Hollywood Park	2 Mecca Drive	Hollywood Park, TX 78232
Arroyo	Jimmy	Director of Public Works, Town of Hollywood Park	2 Mecca Drive	Hollywood Park, TX 78232
Miller	Lou	President, African American Chamber of Commerce of San Antonio	1717 N. Loop 1604 East, Suite 220	San Antonio, TX 78232
Robinson	Gwendolyn	Executive Director, Alamo City Black Chamber of Commerce	600 Hemisfair Plaza Way, Bldg 406-10	San Antonio, TX, 78205
Bain	Kevin	President, Christian Business Chamber of Commerce	P.O. Box 701073	San Antonio, TX 78270
Scroggins	Jennifer	Chair, San Antonio Women's Chamber of Commerce	600 Hemisfair Plaza Way, Bldg 217	San Antonio, TX, 78205
Sculley	Sheryl L.	City Manager, City of San Antonio	P.O. Box 839966	San Antonio, TX 78238

Press Release



Contact:

Leroy Alloway
Director, Community Development
210.378.4399 / 210.495.5256

LAlloway@AlamoRMA.org / Info@AlamoRMA.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 16, 2009

**Alamo RMA to Engage the Community in Conversation
at the 2nd US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
Public Scoping Meeting**

(SAN ANTONIO) – November 16, 2009 – The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) wants the public to engage in a candid conversation and share differing viewpoints about potential long-term solutions for US 281 at the **2nd Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Public Scoping Meeting Tuesday, November 17, 2009**. The Alamo RMA wants to hear community comments about the preliminary alternatives, project objectives and alternatives screening process to improve mobility along US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. The public is encouraged to participate from **5:30 PM to 8:30 PM at Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78261**. The open house portion of the meeting will run from **5:30 PM to 6:30 PM**. Attendees should ensure they arrive by **6:30 PM** for the **Public Presentation**. Small working groups will then start at **7:00 PM**.

This will be unlike any other public meeting that has been conducted for this stretch of US 281. There have been a great deal of divergent views and interests expressed about this corridor, so now is the time to come together for a constructive dialogue about the ongoing EIS process and what can be done to address the increased congestion along this stretch of the US 281 corridor.

At this EIS Public Scoping Meeting the community will have the opportunity to:

- Discuss Preliminary Project Alternatives
- Discuss Project Objectives and Alternatives Screening Process
- Ask Questions and Submit Comments

For up-to-date information related to the EIS and other US 281 projects, please visit:

www.411on281.com or call (210) 495-5256.

About the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

Overseen by a seven-member Board of Directors, the Alamo RMA includes a professional staff and consultant team that are committed to finding ways to empower our local community to take charge of our transportation future. The purpose of the Alamo RMA is to provide Bexar County with opportunities to accelerate needed transportation projects - through the direction of a local board making local choices about local mobility needs - that enhance the quality of life and economic growth for all residents in our region.

###

Request for Coverage



Contact:

Leroy Alloway
Director, Community Development
210.378.4399 / 210.495.5256

LAlloway@AlamoRMA.org / Info@AlamoRMA.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 16, 2009

**Request for Coverage:
Alamo RMA to Engage the Community in Conversation
at the 2nd US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
Public Scoping Meeting**

WHAT: The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) wants the public to engage in a candid conversation and share differing viewpoints about potential long-term solutions to US 281 at the **second Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Public Scoping Meeting Tuesday, November 17, 2009**. The Alamo RMA wants to hear community comments about the preliminary alternatives, project objectives and alternatives screening process to improve mobility along US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road.

WHEN: **Tuesday, November 17, 2009**
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Open House: 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Presentation: 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Small Group Work Session: 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

WHERE: **Spring Hill Event Center**
2455 Celebration Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78261

WHO: **Alamo RMA Board Members and Staff**
US 281 EIS Team
Members of the Public

MORE: This will be unlike any other public meeting that has been conducted for this stretch of US 281. There has been a great deal of divergent views and interests expressed about this corridor, so now is the time to come together for a constructive dialogue about the ongoing EIS process and what can be done to address the increased congestion along this stretch of the US 281 corridor.

At this EIS Public Scoping Meeting the community will have the opportunity to:

- Discuss Preliminary Project Alternatives
- Discuss Project Objectives and Alternatives Screening Process
- Ask Questions and Submit Comments

For up-to-date information related to the EIS and other US 281 projects:

please visit www.411on281.com or call (210) 495-5256.

About the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

Overseen by a seven-member Board of Directors, the Alamo RMA includes a professional staff and consultant team that are committed to finding ways to empower our local community to take charge of our transportation future. The purpose of the Alamo RMA is to provide Bexar County with opportunities to accelerate needed transportation projects - through the direction of a local board making local choices about local mobility needs - that enhance the quality of life and economic growth for all residents in our region.

###

Media Kit



ALAMO RMA

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

"Moving people faster"

US 281 Environmental Impact Statement

2nd Public Scoping Meeting

November 17, 2009

MEDIA KIT

US 281 Environmental Impact Statement
2nd Public Scoping Meeting
November 17, 2009
Station Exhibits



Contents of Media Kit

- (1) Press Release (available on **Appendix A**)
- (2) Newsletter (available on **Appendix A**)
- (3) Meeting Handouts (available on **Appendix C**)
- (4) Slide Presentations (available on **Appendix C**)
- (4) Exhibits (available on **Appendix C**)

Media List

**A Press Release and Request for Coverage were sent multiple times between
November 13, 2009 and November 17, 2009 to the following Media Outlets**

Television	Military Publications
KSAT TV 12 (ABC)	Brooks Discovery
KENS TV 5 (CBS)	Fort Sam Houston Newsleader
KABB TV 29 (Fox)	Lackland Tailspinner
KLRN TV 9 (PBS)	Randolph Wingspread
WOAI TV 4 (NBC)	Social Publications
KWEX TV 41 (Univision)	Citipages
KVDA TV 60 (Telemundo)	Scene in SA
KMYS TV 35 (MYTV/KRRT)	San Antonio Magazine
Print	San Antonio Woman
San Antonio Express-News	San Antonio News Bureau
Weeklies/Monthlies	Associated Press
Bulverde Community News	AM Radio Stations
Daily Commercial Recorder	KTSA-AM 550
Hill Country Times	WOAI-AM 1200
North Central News	KLUP-AM 930
Northeast Herald	FM Radio Stations
North San Antonio Times	KAJA-97.3
Northwest Weekly	KCYY-100.3
Northside Recorder	KONO-101.1
Nside San Antonio Magazine	KQXT-101.9
San Antonio Business Journal	KSTX-89.1 (NPR)
San Antonio Current (AAN)	KSYM-90.1
San Antonio Lightning News	KXXM-96.1
Southside Reporter	KZEP-104.5
Welcome Home	KRTU-91.7
210 SA	KBBT-98.5
Spanish Language Publications	KPWT-106.7
Cancha	KISS-99.5
Conexion	KPAC-88.3 (TPR)
El Continental	KTFM-94.1
La Prensa	KJXY-102.7
Rumbo de San Antonio	Internet
College and University	www.mysanantonio.com
OLLU-The Lake Front	Social Media
SAC-The Ranger	FaceBook
St. Mary's-The Rattler	Socializer
Trinity-The Trinitonian	Twitter
UIW-The Logos	
UTSA-Paisano	

APPENDIX B

Sign-In Sheets

2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

[illegible]

US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address				Phone	Don't publish info (V)
	Street	City, State	Zip	E-Mail		
Robin Tremallo	18707 Redrock Cvk SA TX 78259			rtremallo@yahoo.com	(510) 497-1464	✓
Jasen Sateres ✓	Dist 9 Council office	SAT		jasen.sateres@sanantonio.gov	341-2390	✓
Chirike Villanreal						
Lou + Jim Lambent	12420 Stuart Rd	SAT	78263	mrtjm@flash.net	210-635-8010	✓
Russell SEGUIN	26211 Lookout Fall	SAT			830-438-5281	✓
Melvin McLaughlin	26211 Lookout Fall	SAT	78260	mac.mel@AUGHLIN.HOTMAIL.COM		✓
BOB TERRELL Jr.	21414 ENCINO CIRCLE	SAT	78259	TERRELL2000@yahoo.com	210-481-3677	✓
Nancy Guinn DAVID	1375 Frontier	SB	78070	njguinn@hotmail.com		
Pete Bell	8700 Tesoro	TX	78217	ptella@aarcj.com	210 362-5249	
Elena Serna	331 Avant. Ave	SA TX	78210	Lane.Serna@gmail.com		



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address			E-Mail	Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip			
Duane Chisom	391 W. Corcoran	San Antonio	78260	bubba@centurylink.net	830-780-4188	✓
LARRY HOEYMAN	2700 E. Ransburg	SAN ANTONIO	78261		830-580-4860	✓
Daisy Adelman	2700 E. Ransburg	SA TX	78261		830 980 4860	✓
Sadie Sartor	505 E. Portal	SA TX	78232	sadiesartor@yahoo.com		✓
Cindy Griffin	818 Venable	SA	78260	cgriffin43@satx.rr.com	830 438 2001	
LINDA DUNN	1100 NW Loop 410	SA	78213	l-dunn@tamug.edu	210-979-9411	
Harris Koehl	3810 River Falls	SA	78259		210-490-5799	
Rosly Torster	19915 Witterburg	SA	78256	FRISTE@lapo-dan.com	210 375-9100	
JOHN TEDOR	25742 CARLWAY	SA	78260	jtedor@satx.rr.com	830 980-4649	
Craig Loeffler	1856 Lookout Forest	SA	78260	cloeffler@yahoo.com	210 287 5941	
Rick Jorwick	6410 Slania Cir.	SA	78249	RJorwick@SATX.rr.com	210-641-5276	



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address			Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip	E-Mail	
Eric Grew	534 mesa loop	SA TX	78258		✓
Roy ADELL	1410 OBST RD.	BULVERDE, TX,	78163	Royadell@AOL.com 830-780-8212	
Beverly Lewis	5634 Crimson St	SA Antonio	78261	MUTL@GUTS.COM	✓
Mike	11	11	11	11	✓
Dou Dixon	206 MORNINGSTAR		78209	NA	✓
Phil Center	2810 Smithson	SA TX	78261	Phil@GUTS.COM	✓
Rees Walker	High Ranch			reeswalker@guts.com	
Michael Walker	26233 Pass	SA TX	78260	iwalker5@guts.com 730-980-8356	✓
Glenn Penningfield	546 Will Smith		78634	na	
Kevin Young	85 NE Loop 410 St 304	SA TX	78216	Kyoung@hntb.com 210-391-6515	✓
Robert Throckmorton	27630 Kiate Ranch Dr.	SA, TX	78261		

US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2
 November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
 Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address				Phone	Don't publish info (V)
	Street	City, State	Zip	E-Mail		
Joyce Towsley	2014 Sawgrass Ridge	SA TX	78260	SATOWSLEY egvte.com	830-830-8786	
Robert Towsley	2014 " "	" "		" "	" "	
ANDREW WINTER	ISERAR COUNTY	—	—	AWINTER@ISERAR.ORG	210 335-6487	
THERESA CLAXTON	FHWA	AUSTIN	78711		512-536-5943	
HOWARD GOINGS	311 Mountain Ave	SATX	78260	ava@ellax@BOLT.NET	830 438-5944	
WILLIS GAY	23303 SEVEN WINDS	SATX	78258		210-442-7012	
PATRICIA PESER	1902 Pipestone Dr	SA7	78232	curshro8@gmail.com		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PAUL RUTKOWSKI	25810 Mount Ararat	SA, TX	78260	PAULRUTKOWSKI@MSN.COM	972-672-1169	
CYNTHIA COSS	5545 Woodbridge Oaks	SA TX	78249	COSS@buntto.com		
David Julian	2151 Shoreham	SA TX	78260		858-428-3254	



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2
 November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
 Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address				Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip	E-Mail		
Jack Chambers	23620 Oakland Cv	SA, TX	78255	jack1130-5@bctwail.		
KERRY KINCHEN	31416 SUNLIGHT DR	BULLHEAD	78251	kkinchen@sdx.rr.com	210-602-8197	
Lloyd Ryler	15150 Blanco	San Antonio	78233	mryler@gmail.com	210-825-7540	✓
Liesa Wardlaw	15150 Blanco	SA	78232	lisa@comcast.net	210-855-0018	✓
Adam Ellis	1022 Iron Mesa	SA, TX	78260	gumbles@jpsd.net		
Paul Dixon	9165 North Point	SA TX	78266	—	210-279-1416	
David Javer	119 E. Rhyssedy	SA	16		347-0022	

US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address				Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip	E-Mail		
Diane Wilson	2230 Estero Gate Dr	S.A., TX	78260	dawilson@nexus4charles.com		✓
DAVID DREW	21406 ENCINO 200 COURT	SA	78259	DAVID@DREWADESIGNS.COM		✓
Demi Xibias	2731 Trinity Fls SA		78261	Redacted		
KURTIS PICKETT	5403 MOUNTAIN VISTA SA		78247			
Larry Shumway	113 Canal Crest	Bulverde	78163	Lutz Lurvey@aol.com		
PAT DOSSEY	282 BAYSWARD	SAT	78213			
Carol Barrera	20110 Sierra Saura	SAT	78259	cderezo@sax.rr.com		✓
KEN PHELPS	18222 CRYSTAL CV	SA	78259	YPHELPS@WIREDWEB.NET		
Reggie Fountain	2010 Laurel Field	SA	78260	rfountain@cpj.com		
Lee Allen	14810 Willow Moon	SA	78232			
Charles Land	Bubbling Bl	"	78260	cland1@sax.rr.com		

US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address			E-Mail	Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip			
Byron Tuen	214 Silentbluff	SA, TX	78216	Btuen@SAX.cr.com	210 349-4200	
Ab Pittman	314 Slumber	S.A. TX	78260	—	210 316 6672	
Tuli Coen		Spring Branch	78070	—	—	✓
Caesar Delao	3331 Roan Uly.	SATY	78259	Seazar 38@yahoo.com	210-497-4609	
William W. Wassberg 25831 Beautyberry San Antonio, TX 78261 (425) 765-9474 williamwassberg@msn.com						
Al Wambach	87 Reynora	SATY	78261	awambach@santv.net	830-880-6362	✓



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

[illegible]

US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address				Phone	Don't publish info (V)
	Street address	City, State	Zip	E-Mail		
DAVID A. MANN	1146 Flagstone Dr.	S.A. TX	78260	davidamann@aol.com	(210) 494-0774	✓
MARITA ROOS	107 Talavera Pkwy #331	SA TX	78232	mrroos53@gmail.com		
HGL Naney Fieseler	4140 Menlo Rd	SA TX	78259	creekbottom@cox.net	800 210 497-0299	
Jimmy Means	902 Enchanted Rock	SA TX	78260	jmeans@shotma.com	830-438-7185	
Julie Klein	18479 Redland Rd #1204	SA TX	78259	jowallredland@yahoo.com	204-2069	
Tim Farris	2914 Old Riverside Rd	SA TX	78217	pfarris@satx.net	7250974	
KATH LINDSEY	2027 SUNDRIIDGE	SA	78260			
Julie Klein	524 Mustang Water	SA	78260	djklein@cyte.com		
Math Barkley	1328 N. Myrtle Dr.	NO, TX	78617	abarkley@earthlink.net	512-374-2317	
Tim Smith				figsmith@mbkcorp.com		
Steve Perez	314 E. Crestline	SA TX	78201	perez@riversa.com	210-785-0888	



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2
 November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
 Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address				Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip	E-Mail		
<i>Fernando Flores</i>						
Chris Zagzecki	Medusada	S.A. TX	78261		338-5046	
Ted West	Agency	Austin TX	78701		512-535-5959	
Paula Rasco		SA	78260		210-281-5996	
Tom Rasco		SA	78260		210-281-5996	
CHARLES McBRIDE	SANIGRESS RIDGE	SA	78260		830-438-3349	
J.E. Koch	27006 Fidelity Pkwy	SA	78540		830-980-7828	



281 EIS



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

STAFF

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address				Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip	E-Mail		
Kate Clark	JACOBS	Austin, TX				
JESUS MOULINER	JACOBS	"				
TOM EISENHOUR	ECOMM	AUSTIN				
LEE NICHOLS	JACOBS	San Antonio, TX				
NISHANT KULADIA	JACOBS	AUSTIN				
JEFF CASBER	JACOBS	HOUSTON				
JR MARTINEZ	JACOBS	SA				
MICHAEL SEXTON	JACOBS	AUSTIN				
MARC WILLIAMS	JACOBS	AUSTIN				
Stephanie Messerli	JACOBS	Austin				
FRANK ALTMAN	"	SA, TX				

2



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address			Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip		
Leigh-Ann Fabianke	Smith/Associates SATX				
Lisa Adelman	Alamo RMA				
Pat Irwin	Alamo RMA				
Leroy Alloway	Alamo RMA				
Michelle Martinez	Alamo RMA				
Dale Stein	Alamo RMA				
Bethany Feinstein	SMITH	SA, TX			
Valerie Moss	Jacobs	SA, TX			
Danice Heath	Jacobs	SA, TX			
Boji Ivy	Smith Associates	SA, TX			
Steven Cramer	Jacobs	SA, TX			

3



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address			E-Mail	Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip			
Tom Van Zandt	1504 W 5th	Austin	78703	vanzandt@hicksend	512-478-0858	
Bob Huch	1504 W 5th	Austin	78703	rhuch@hickseny.com	512-478-0858	
FERNANDO FLORES	911 CENTRAL PKWY	SAN ANTONIO, TX	78232	fernando.flores@jacobs.com	210-405-6344	
Crystal Spence	911 Central Pkwy	SA TX	78232	Crystal.Spence@jacobs.com	210-405-6344	
Laura Christ	700 N St Mary's Suite 407	SA TX	78205	laurac@smithcollaboration.com	210-270-7748	
Krista McDermid	1707 W. FM 1626	Manhasset TX	78652	Krista@Zaracenvironmental.com	512-757-7670	
Kathryn Fretwell	551 2705 Bee Cave #300	Austin, TX	78746	Kathryn.Fretwell@jacobs.com	512-732-7503	
Lindsay Liggett	"	"	"	lindsay.liggett@jacobs.com	512-732-7546	
Suzanne Dean	2705 Bee Cave Rd #300	Austin, TX	78746	suzanne.dean@jacobs.com	(512) 732-7587	
Kory Randall	2705 BEE CAVE RD	AUSTIN, TX	78746	KORY.RANDALL@JACOBS.COM	512-314-3100	
PAUL BARRERA	2705 BEE CAVE RD	AUSTIN, TX	78746	PAUL.BARRERA@JACOBS	512-314-3100	



281 EIS



US 281 EIS SCOPING PUBLIC MEETING #2

November 17, 2009, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Spring Hill Event Center, 2455 Celebration Drive, San Antonio, TX 78261

STAFF

Name PLEASE PRINT	Address				Phone	Don't publish info (✓)
	Street	City, State	Zip	E-Mail		
Varian Johnson	2705 Bee Caves	Austin, TX	78729	varianjohnson@jacobson.com	512-314-3139	
Milo Mikschke	Alamo RMA				210-425-5340	
James Kratz	2705 Bee Caves	Austin TX	78746	James Kratz@jacobson.com	512 314 3178	
Karen Throckmorton	27030 Rialto Ranch	SA TX	78261			

APPENDIX C

Meeting Handouts, Slide Presentations, and Exhibits

Meeting Handouts

COMMENT CARD

US 281 Environmental Impact Statement
Public Scoping Meeting #2 - November 17, 2009
Spring Hill Event Center

Please let us know your thoughts about the preliminary alternatives that are considered “fatally flawed” and being recommended for elimination. Please check “agree” or “disagree” for the alternatives below.

Heavy Rail	<input type="checkbox"/> AGREE	<input type="checkbox"/> DISAGREE
Commuter Rail	<input type="checkbox"/> AGREE	<input type="checkbox"/> DISAGREE
Monorail	<input type="checkbox"/> AGREE	<input type="checkbox"/> DISAGREE
Automated Guideway Transit	<input type="checkbox"/> AGREE	<input type="checkbox"/> DISAGREE
Personal Rapid Transit	<input type="checkbox"/> AGREE	<input type="checkbox"/> DISAGREE
New Parallel Corridor	<input type="checkbox"/> AGREE	<input type="checkbox"/> DISAGREE

If you DISAGREE with any of the alternatives being eliminated, please tell us which one(s) and why.

Please let us know your thoughts, concerns, and suggestions. Do the preliminary alternatives capture the **range of alternatives** that should be considered? Do the **objectives define the type of improvements** that you would like to see? Do the **alternatives that have been carried forward** represent options you would like to see studied in more detail? Are there any other items you would like us to be aware of as the process moves forward? (Please use additional sheets if needed.)

Name:

Address:

City, State Zip

Email:

After tonight's meeting, written comments can be **e-mailed** to US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org, **faxed** to 210-495-5403 attention US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting #2 or **mailed** to US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting #2, c/o Alamo RMA, 1222 N. Main Ste 1000, San Antonio, TX 78212. **All written comments received or postmarked by Monday, November 30, 2009, will be in the Public Scoping Meeting #2 official record and considered by the US 281 EIS team. Comments received after the deadline will become part of the record for next public meeting**

MEETING EVALUATION

Public involvement is key to the success of the US 281 Environmental Impact Statement. Your feedback will help us better meet your needs as we move forward. Please take a few minutes to complete this meeting evaluation form.

How did you hear about tonight's meeting? (check all that apply)

☐ 411on281.com ☐ Church bulletin ☐ HOA/NA bulletin
☐ Sign placed in US 281 the project corridor ☐ Friend/family/word of mouth ☐ Facebook
☐ Twitter ☐ Socializer

Newspaper (which one?) _____ Radio (which station?) _____

TV (which station?) _____ Email (from whom?) _____

Other: _____

On a scale of 1 to 5, rate the location for tonight's meeting?

Did Not Like		Somewhat Liked		Liked Very Much
1	2	3	4	5

Comments: _____

On a scale of 1 to 5, rate the information presented and on display?

Not Helpful		Somewhat Helpful		Very Helpful
1	2	3	4	5

Comments: _____

On a scale of 1 to 5, rate the small group work format used for tonight's meeting?

Did Not Like		Somewhat Liked		Liked Very Much
1	2	3	4	5

Comments: _____

Any other comments? (Please use additional sheets if needed.)

Thank you!

US 281 EIS Public Scoping Meeting #2

November 17, 2009

WHAT WE HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH WITH THIS MEETING

- Inform interested individuals of the US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process.
- Provide a forum where individuals may ask the EIS Team questions about various aspects of the US 281 EIS process.
- Inform individuals about the US 281 EIS alternatives screening process, the alternatives that are recommended for elimination as a result of Level 1 screening, and the alternatives recommended to be carried forward for further study.
- Allow for small group discussions of the US 281 transportation improvement purposes, objectives, and alternatives development and screening process.
- Gather input from the public regarding US 281 transportation improvement purposes, objectives and the alternatives development process and recommendations.

MEETING AGENDA

5:30 PM Open House

Station 1 – Welcome!

Station 2 – What is an EIS? What is NEPA? Why does US 281 need to be improved? What issues should be considered?

Station 3 – How does the alternatives screening process work?

Station 4 – What are the preliminary alternatives? Which ones are recommended to be carried forward for additional study? Which ones have been recommended for elimination?

6:30 PM Presentation

Welcome – Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

Need & Purpose, Objectives, Alternatives Development – US 281 EIS Team

7:05 PM Small Group Work Sessions (see other side for more information)

Instructions for the Small Group Sessions – US 281 EIS Team

Part 1 – Purposes and Objectives

Part 2 – Alternatives and Purposes

8:05 PM Reconvene Whole Group

Reports from Small Groups

Comments/Questions

Wrap up and Next Steps

8:30 PM Adjourn

SMALL GROUP WORK STEPS

1. You have been randomly divided into tables of eight-to-ten participants as you sign in at registration. Each table will have a Facilitator who will be responsible for keeping your group on task and assuring that everyone in the group has the opportunity to participate in the group discussion.
2. Each group will be asked to identify a **Recorder** who will write down the responses to the group discussion and a **Reporter** who will report to the whole group on the highlights of the discussion in your group.
3. You will be asked to individually complete a worksheet (Part 1) on the objectives and the purpose for the transportation improvements.
4. Once everyone has completed the Part 1 worksheet, the **Facilitator** will lead the group in a conversation about the worksheet results.
5. After this initial conversation, everyone will be asked to complete a second worksheet (Part 2) about the purpose of the transportation improvements and the alternatives recommended for Level 2 screening.
6. Once everyone has completed the Part 2 worksheet, the facilitator will lead the group in a conversation to see what they think about how well the alternatives address the purpose of the improvements.
7. The Reporter will be asked to make a brief report on the highlights of their group's discussion to the whole group when it reconvenes.
8. The Recorder should turn in the sheet with the discussion responses to the group's facilitator.

IN ORDER FOR THE SMALL GROUP WORK TO RUN SMOOTHLY WE ASK THAT PARTICIPANTS FOLLOW THESE SUGGESTED GUIDELINES:

- Listen to understand.
- Speak one at a time.
- It's okay to have different opinions; please give everyone who wants to speak the opportunity to express his/her opinion.
- Please keep your comments concise and to the point.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE SECOND US 281 EIS PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING!

PLEASE BE SURE TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT A COMMENT CARD!

A court reporter is available if you would like to make verbal comments for the record in addition to the comment card.

All written comments received or postmarked by Monday, November 30, 2009, will be in the Public Scoping Meeting #2 official record and considered by the US 281 EIS team. Comments received after the deadline will become part of the record for the next public meeting.

Written comments should be sent by US Mail to Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, 1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78212.

You may also submit comments to the Alamo RMA by fax to 210-495-5403 or e-mail at US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org.

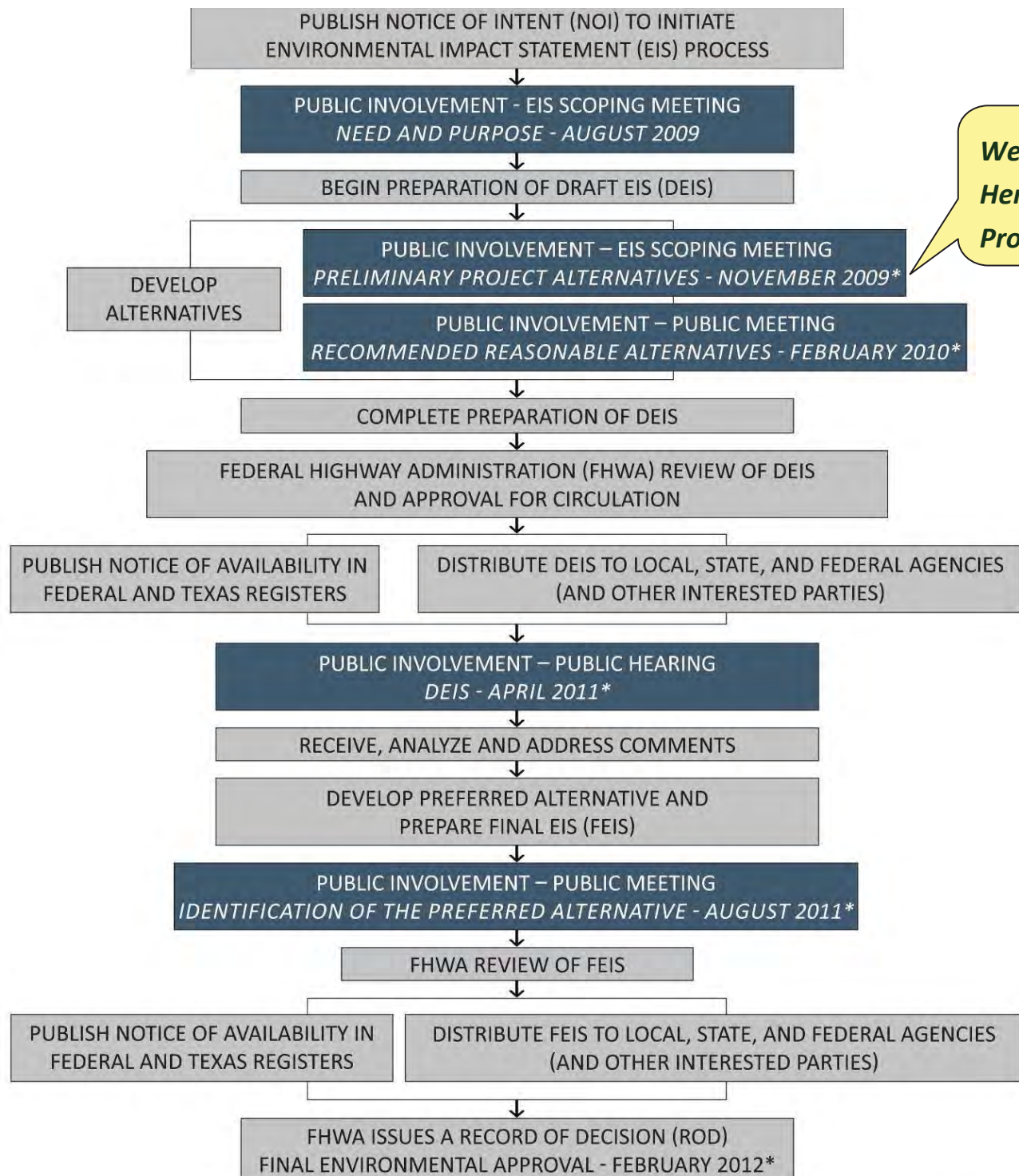
US 281 EIS

Public Scoping Meeting #2

Preliminary Alternatives
And
Alternatives Screening Process

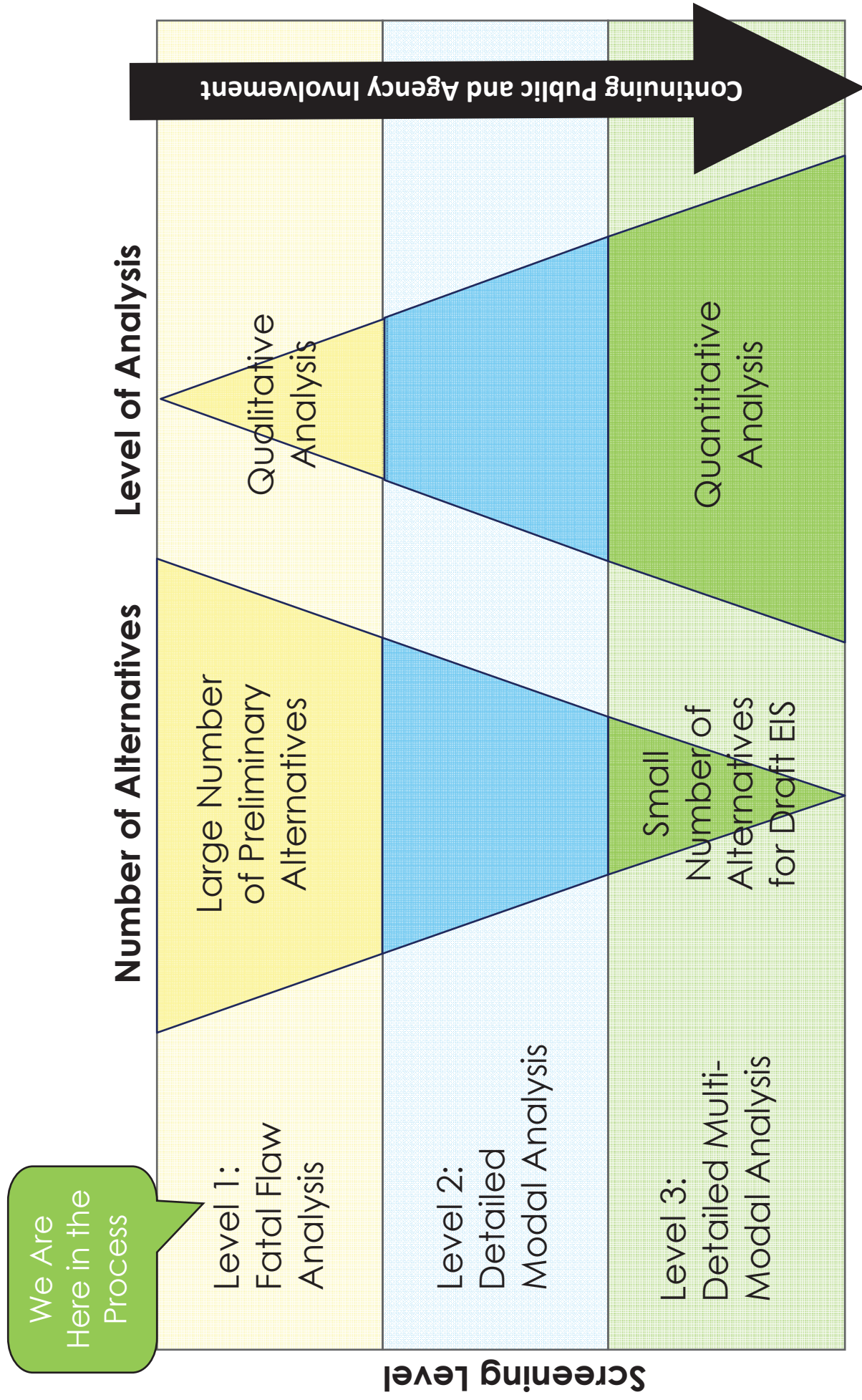


ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROCESS

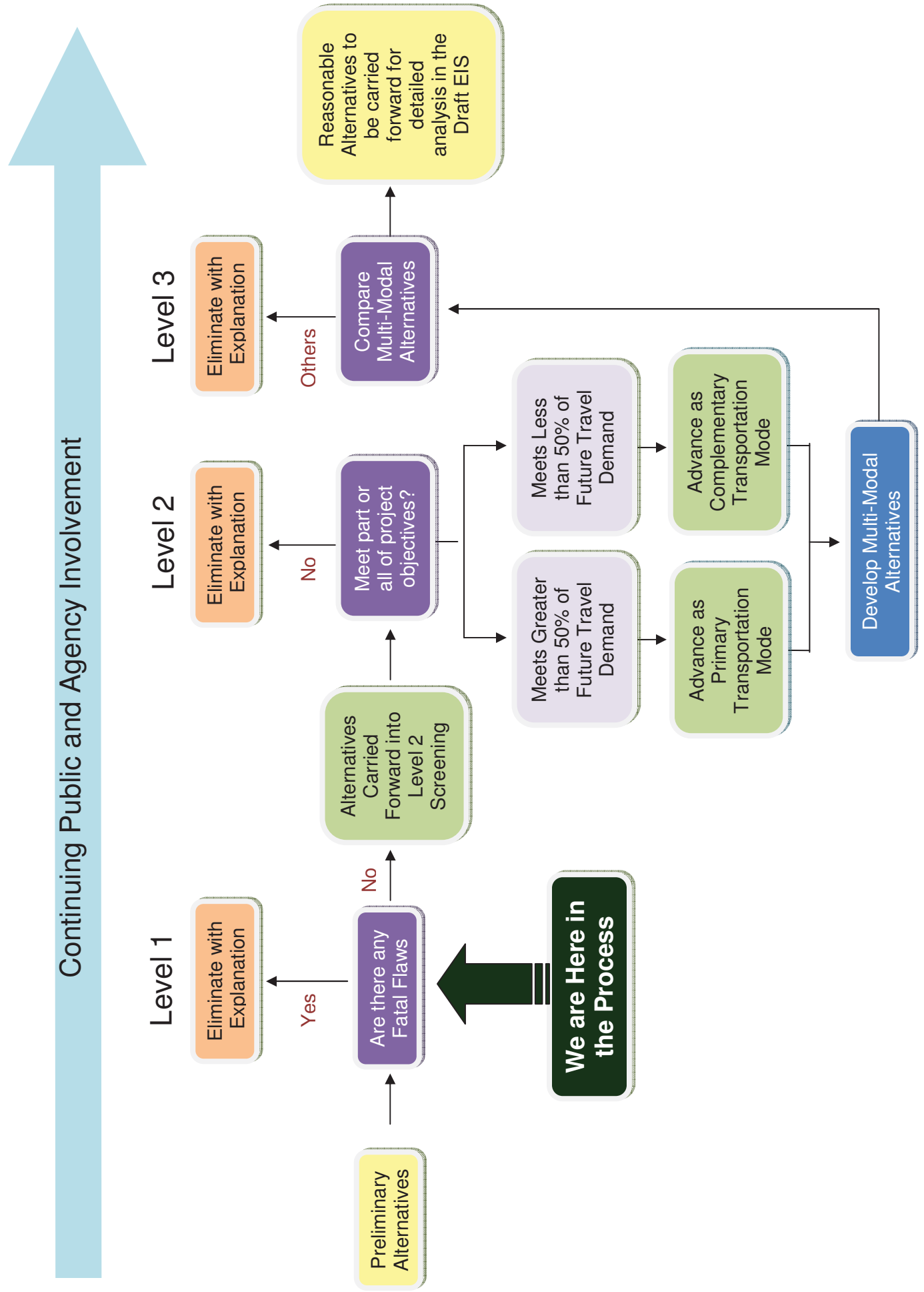


* Approximate Dates

ALTERNATIVE EVALUATION PROCESS



DETAILED ALTERNATIVES SCREENING PROCESS



ALTERNATIVES SCREENING PROCESS

Level 1: Fatal Flaw Analysis (Qualitative)

- Evaluate Alternatives for Fatal Flaws:
 - Not compatible with regional plans
 - Unproven technology
 - Major adverse impacts

Level 2: Detailed Modal Analysis (Quantitative)

- Evaluation based on quantitative measures may include:
 - Capacity and demand
 - Safety improvement
 - Travel time improvement
 - Engineering feasibility
- Alternatives grouped as Primary and Complementary Transportation Modes

Level 3: Detailed Multi-Modal Analysis (Quantitative)

- Combine Primary and Complementary Transportation Modes to form comprehensive solutions
- Detailed evaluation/comparison of multi-modal alternatives using additional criteria like:
 - Right-of-way requirements
 - Relocation and displacements
 - Cost effectiveness
 - Environmental considerations
- Recommendation of a set of reasonable alternatives for evaluation in the Draft EIS

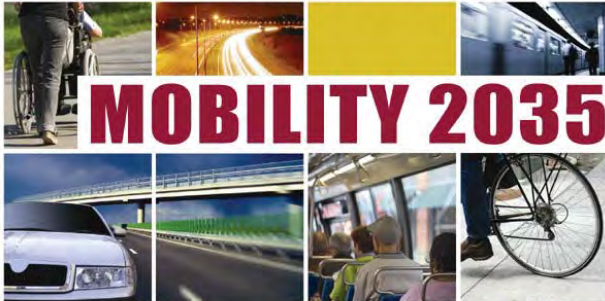
All Draft EIS Highway Improvement Alternatives will be analyzed for both toll and non-toll effects

Public review and comment on reasonable alternatives

PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

No Build Alternative

SAN ANTONIO-BEXAR COUNTY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



We Plan to Keep You Moving

Description

- The No Build Alternative would include
 - US 281 Super Street improvements
 - Upgrade to the Loop 1604/US 281 Interchange
 - All planned short and long range regional transportation improvements (except the US 281 Corridor North of Loop 1604)
 - Short-term minor maintenance and safety improvements that maintain the continued operation of existing US 281 north of Loop 1604
- Provides a baseline to compare against all build alternatives

Recommendation: To be carried forward to the Draft EIS

Transit Alternatives on US 281 (North of Loop 1604)

Heavy Rail



Washington, DC

Description:

- Commonly called metros or subways
- Operates in densely populated urban areas on steel tracks in exclusive right-of-way
- Powered by an electrified third rail alongside the track

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 15-40 miles
- Station Spacing: ½-5 miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 30 mph/70 mph
- Service Frequency: 5-10 minutes (peak period)
10-20 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 60-80 seated (plus standees)

Recommendation: To Be Eliminated (Not compatible with regional plans)

Commuter Rail



Fort Worth, TX

Description:

- Typically operates in freight rail right-of-way
- May use locomotives with passenger cars or self-propelled passenger cars, known as diesel multiple units (DMUs)
- Serves longer distance commute

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 20-80 miles
- Station Spacing: 2-10 miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 30 mph/90 mph
- Service Frequency: 30 minutes (peak period)
60 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 100-150 seated

Recommendation: To Be Eliminated (No Existing freight line, Not compatible with corridor plans)

Monorail



Las Vegas, NV

Description:

- Elevated on a concrete or steel guideway
- Can be operated by a driver or automated
- Historically used in recreational areas or downtowns

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 1-18 miles
- Station Spacing: ¼-1 mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 30 mph/70 mph
- Service Frequency: 5-10 minutes (peak period)
10-20 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 28-30 seated (plus standees)

Recommendation: To Be Eliminated (Not compatible with regional plans)

Automated Guideway Transit



Detroit, MI

Description:

- Found in major airports, activity centers, and downtown areas
- Similar to monorail (driverless, electrically powered and exclusive right-of-way)
- May be tunneled, elevated, and/or at grade

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 1-5 miles
- Station Spacing: ¼-½ mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 8-15 mph/30 mph
- Service Frequency: 1-10 minutes (peak period)
5-20 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 30-100 seated

Recommendation: To Be Eliminated (Speed and service distance not satisfactory, Not compatible with regional plans)

Personal Rapid Transit



Morgantown, WV

Description:

- Designed to provide personalized service between specific origin and destination stations
- Operates on demand with no intermediate stops

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 1-5 miles
- Station Spacing: ¼-½ mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 8-15 mph/30 mph
- Service Frequency: 10 seconds - 1 minute
- Car Capacity: ≤ 5 seated

Recommendation: To Be Eliminated (Not a proved technology, Not compatible with regional plans)

Light Rail



Houston, TX

Description:

- Medium capacity, higher speed service in urban areas
- Operate on steel rail with overhead electric power
- Can operate in exclusive rights-of-way (either at-grade or elevated) and share city streets

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 5-20 miles
- Station Spacing: ½-2 miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 20-25 mph/70 mph
- Service Frequency: 5-10 minutes (peak period)
10-20 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 32-90 seated (plus standees)

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Streetcar



Portland, OR

Description:

- Share city streets to provide circulation or connector services
- Operate on steel wheels or rubber tires with overhead electric power

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 5 miles or less
- Station Spacing: ¼-½ miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 8-15 mph/45 mph
- Service Frequency: 10-15 minutes (peak period)
30-60 minutes (off-peak period)
- Car Capacity: 16-60 seated (plus standees)

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Fixed Route Bus Service



San Antonio, TX

Description:

- Operates in mixed traffic on existing streets
- On-board fare collection
- Frequent stops and wide coverage area

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: varies
- Station Spacing: ¼- 1 mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 10-15 mph/60 mph
- Service Frequency: 15-30 minutes (peak)
60 minutes (off-peak)
- Car Capacity: 40-50 seated (plus standees)

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Express Bus Service



San Antonio, TX

Description:

- Limited stops and direct routes between clusters of origins and destinations (e.g. suburb to downtown)
- Operates in mixed traffic on existing streets or in HOV Lanes (Dallas and Houston)
- Faster and more expensive than Fixed Route service

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: varies
- Station Spacing: ½ - 10 miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 20-40 mph/60 mph
- Service Frequency: 15-30 minutes (peak)
60 minutes (off-peak)
- Car Capacity: 40-50 seated (plus standees)

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)



San Antonio, TX

Description:

- Operates in preferential or exclusive bus lanes
- Signal prioritization
- Improved fare collection process
- Easier boarding system
- Enhanced Passenger Information Technology

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 8 - 15 miles or less
- Station Spacing: ½ - 1 mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 15-40 mph/65 mph
- Service Frequency: 10-15 minutes (peak)
30-60 minutes (off-peak)
- Car Capacity: 60 seated (plus standees)

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Highway Improvements to US 281 (North of Loop 1604)

Add Lanes to Existing US 281 Corridor



US 281 Today – between Stone Oak Parkway and Evans Road, San Antonio, TX

Description

- Additional lanes on existing US 281
- No grade separations or control of access

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Grade Separated Intersections



Wurzbach Parkway at Perrin Beitel Road, San Antonio, TX

Description

- Grade separation at major intersections
- Access to adjacent land use via short frontage roads and driveways
- Does not include continuous frontage roads

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Expand Parallel Corridors



Blanco Road, San Antonio, TX

Description

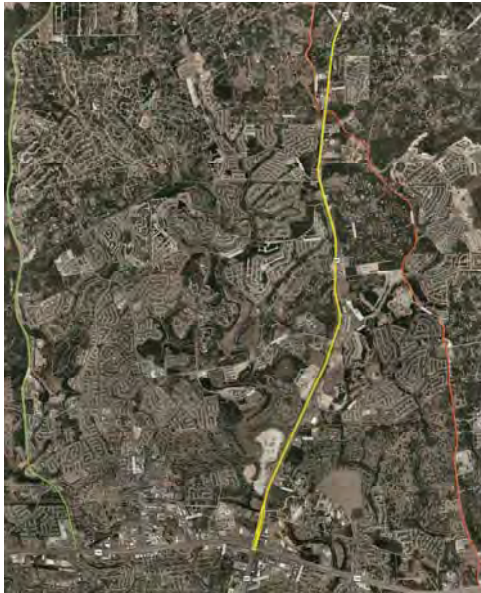
- Upgrade of Bulverde Road and/or Blanco Road
- Diversion of traffic from US 281 to parallel corridors

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening



Bulverde Road, San Antonio, TX

New Parallel Corridor



San Antonio, TX

Description

- Build a new corridor parallel to US 281 between Bulverde Road and Blanco Road

Recommendation: To Be Eliminated (High adverse impacts)

Upgrade Existing US 281 to Expressway



US 281 at Donella Drive, San Antonio, TX

Description

- Convert US 281 to completely grade separated expressway with continuous frontage roads
- Access to adjacent land uses through continuous frontage roads
- At grade, elevated, and/or depressed options

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening



Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway,
Tampa, FL

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) / High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes



Houston, TX

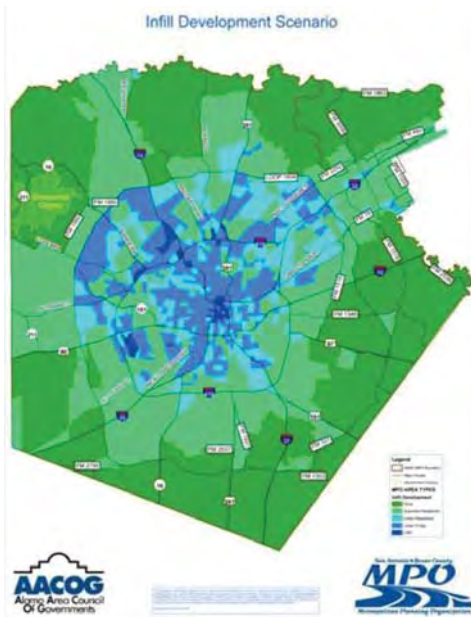
Description

- Add Additional High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes to Existing US 281 Corridor
- Increases vehicle occupancy rates
- Could be reversible by direction

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Other Alternatives on Us 281 (North of Loop 1604)

Growth Management



Description

- Focus growth within urban core
- Encourage more efficient land use and reduce trip lengths
- Part of the MPO Long Range Plan

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Bike & Pedestrian Facilities



San Diego, CA

Description

- More efficient means of making short trips
- Low Cost
- Reduces congestion
- Promotes healthy lifestyle

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Transportation System Management (TSM)

Description:

- Easily implemented, low capital cost transportation improvements that increase the efficiency of transportation facilities and services

Examples:

- Improved intersection or signal operation
- Access Management
- Ridesharing
- Incident Management Program

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

Description:

- Typically refers to policies, programs, and actions that are directed towards decreasing single occupant vehicle travel

Examples:

- Area Pricing
- Mandatory Alternative Work Schedules
- Parking Management

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Part 1 **Purpose and Objectives Worksheet**

For Part 1 of this evening's group exercise, we would like to accomplish the following:

- Familiarize you with the suggested purpose and objectives for US 281 transportation improvements.
- Have you consider how the objectives relate to the purposes.
- Have a conversation about how they relate.

In response to the need for transportation improvements in the US 281 corridor, the purpose is to address growth, improve functionality, improve safety, and enhance community quality of life. The following table identifies some objectives that have been developed to further define the project purpose. They are not listed in order of importance, but are numbered only for easy referral. Each of the columns represents one of the purposes as identified for this EIS.

For each of the objectives, please put a checkmark in the column below each purpose you believe is addressed by that objective (you may check more than one). Feel free to ask questions of your group's facilitator if the objective is not clear to you.

Objectives	Purpose			
	Address Growth	Improve Functionality	Improve Safety	Enhance Quality of Life
Example		√	√	
1. Provide additional capacity to satisfy current and forecasted corridor travel demand.				
2. Reduce travel times and increase travel speeds for through traffic during peak travel periods.				
3. Create a multi-modal transportation facility that is compatible with, and connects to, the regional transportation network.				
4. Allow for development of high-capacity transit in the long term.				
5. Reduce conflicts between local access and through traffic.				
6. Maintain and/or improve access to adjacent land uses and cross streets.				
7. Promote community wellness and contribute to a healthy community through safe facilities for walking and biking.				








Objectives	Purpose			
	Address Growth	Improve Functionality	Improve Safety	Enhance Quality of Life
8. Reduce vehicle crash rates by providing for the safe and easy movement of motor vehicles within the corridor.				
9. Be consistent with local and regional plans and policies.				
10. Maximize use of federal, state, and local government and other non-tolled sources of funding.				
11. Protect the environment and avoid and/or minimize and mitigate adverse direct, indirect and cumulative impacts to social, economic and environmental resources.				
12. Reflect the character and values of the corridor through aesthetic treatments and landscaping acceptable to corridor neighborhoods.				
13. Improve air quality.				
14. Mitigate traffic noise.				
15. Enhance water quality through management of storm water runoff.				
16. Avoid negative impacts to threatened and endangered species and their habitat.				
17.				
18.				
19.				





Part 2

- Give participants a better understanding of the alternatives recommended to be carried forward into Level 2 for further screening.
- Allow participants the opportunity to explore how the alternatives may address the purpose of the improvements to US 281.
- Have a conversation about the alternatives and how they relate to the purpose.

Please indicate with a number from 1 to 5, with 1 being “not at all” and 5 being “very well”, how each alternative addresses the purposes in the columns on the right. Please refer to the descriptions of the alternatives for more information about each one.

1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
Not at All Very Well

Alternatives Recommended to be Carried Forward into the Level 2 Alternatives Screening Process		Description	Purpose			
			Address Growth	Improve Functionality	Improve Safety	Enhance Quality of Life
Example			1	4	2	5
1	No Build	The No Build Alternative would include the US 281 Super Street improvements, the upgrade to the Loop 1604/US 281 Interchange, all planned short and long-range regional transportation improvements (except the US 281 corridor north of Loop 1604) and short-term minor maintenance and safety improvements that maintain the continued operation of existing US 281 north of Loop 1604.				
2	Fixed Guideway Transit (light rail & street car)					
3		 Light Rail (DART – Dallas) Street Car (Portland, OR)				
4	Non-fixed Guideway Transit (fixed route bus, express bus, and bus rapid transit)					
5		VIA (San Antonio)				
6						
7	Add Lanes to existing US 281 north of Loop 1604 (no frontage roads)					
		Existing US 281 between Stone Oak Parkway and Evans Road (San Antonio)				
8	Grade Separated Intersections (short frontage roads)					
		Wurzbach Parkway at Perrin Beitel Road (San Antonio)				
9	Expand Parallel Corridors					
		 Blanco Road (San Antonio)				

	Alternatives Recommended to be Carried Forward into the Level 2 Alternatives Screening Process	Description	Purpose			
			Address Growth	Improve Functionality	Improve Safety	Enhance Quality of Life
10	Upgrade Existing US 281 north of Loop 1604 to an Expressway (with frontage roads)	  <p>US 281 at Donella Drive (San Antonio)</p> <p>Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway (Tampa, FL)</p>				
11	Add Additional High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) / High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes north of Loop 1604	 <p>I-25, Denver, CO</p>				
12	Implement Policy Changes and Growth Management	Focus growth within the urban core and encourage more efficient land use to reduce the travel time required for everyday trips.				
13	Add Facilities for Cyclists and Pedestrians	 <p>San Diego, CA</p>				
14	Integrate Transportation System Management and Incident Management	<p>Transportation System Management (TSM) strategies generally refer to the use of easily implemented, low capital cost transportation improvements to increase the efficiency of transportation facilities. Examples of TSM include access management, improved intersection and signal operation, and ridesharing.</p> <p>Incident Management includes clearing vehicle breakdowns, crashes, and other incidents to allow traffic flow to resume as quickly as possible.</p>				
15	Incorporate Transportation Demand Management	Transportation Demand Management (TDM) generally refers to policies, programs, and actions that are directed towards decreasing single occupant vehicle travel. Examples of TDM include mandatory alternative work schedules and parking management.				
16						
17						
18						

COORDINATION PLAN

In Accordance with Public Law 109-59, SAFETEA-LU, Section 6002

United States Highway (US) 281

From Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road

Bexar County, Texas

Lead Agencies:

Federal Highway Administration

Texas Department of Transportation

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

November 2009

SAFETEA-LU Coordination Plan Revision History

Modification Number	Date	Description of Modifications
0	August 2009	Original Draft
1	November 2009	Revised Need & Purpose
		Updated List of Cooperating and Participating Agencies
		Added Peer Technical Review Committee
		Updated Summary of Project Activities, Participation and Scheduling
		Appended Community Involvement Plan
		Appended Community Advisory Committee Charter

Table of Contents

I.	Purpose of the Coordination Plan	1
II.	Project Description and Scope	1
III.	Project History	2
IV.	Draft Need and Purpose.....	4
V.	Agency Roles and Responsibilities	9
VI.	Agency Coordination, Public Involvement, and Scheduling.....	14

List of Tables

1	History of US 281 Improvements	2
2	History of US 281 Environmental Documentation.....	3
3	List of Agencies	11
4	List of Decline Letters Received from Agencies.....	13
5	Summary of Project Activities, Participation and Scheduling.....	16

List of Figures

1	Project Location.....	1
2	Project Area: Geographic Area Used for Growth Analysis	5
3	Historical and Projected Population Growth within US 281 Project Area	6
4	Crash Rates of the Urban Section of US 281 Compared to Similar Roadways in Texas.....	8
5	Crash Rates of the Rural Section of US 281 Compared to Similar Roadways in Texas.....	8

Appendices

1	Sample Letters to Cooperating and Participating Agencies
2	US 281 EIS Community Involvement Plan
3	US 281 EIS Community Advisory Committee Charter

I. Purpose of the Coordination Plan

In an effort to provide for more efficient environmental reviews for project decision making, Section 6002 of Public Law 109-59, “Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users,” (SAFETEA-LU), enacted August 10, 2005, implemented the development of a coordination plan for all projects for which an environmental impact statement (EIS) is prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The plan’s purpose is to coordinate public and agency participation in and comment on the environmental review process for a project or category of projects. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as lead Federal agency, and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA), as joint lead agencies, have prepared this Coordination Plan to accompany the EIS that will be developed for improvements to US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road, Bexar County, Texas (**Figure 1**). FHWA, TxDOT and the Alamo RMA are soliciting comments from the public and from participating and cooperating agencies regarding the need and purpose for the proposed project, project alternatives, methods to be used in evaluating the project alternatives, and the level of detail required in the analysis of each project alternative. This Coordination Plan describes the roles of the lead agency, joint lead agencies, and the cooperating and participating agencies.

II. Project Description and Scope

US 281 within the project limits is listed in the San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization (SA-BCMPO) Mobility 2030 Plan (the long-range transportation plan) as a six-lane tolled facility; other solutions for improving mobility within the US 281 corridor may be identified in future updates and/or amendments to the long-range transportation plan. The existing facility is a four-to-six-lane non-toll divided arterial with partial access controls. The EIS will develop and evaluate project alternatives including “No-action” (the no-build alternative), Transportation System Management (TSM)/Transportation Demand Management (TDM), rapid transit and roadway build alternatives. According to TxDOT, the Control Section Job (CSJ) number for this project is 0253-04-138.

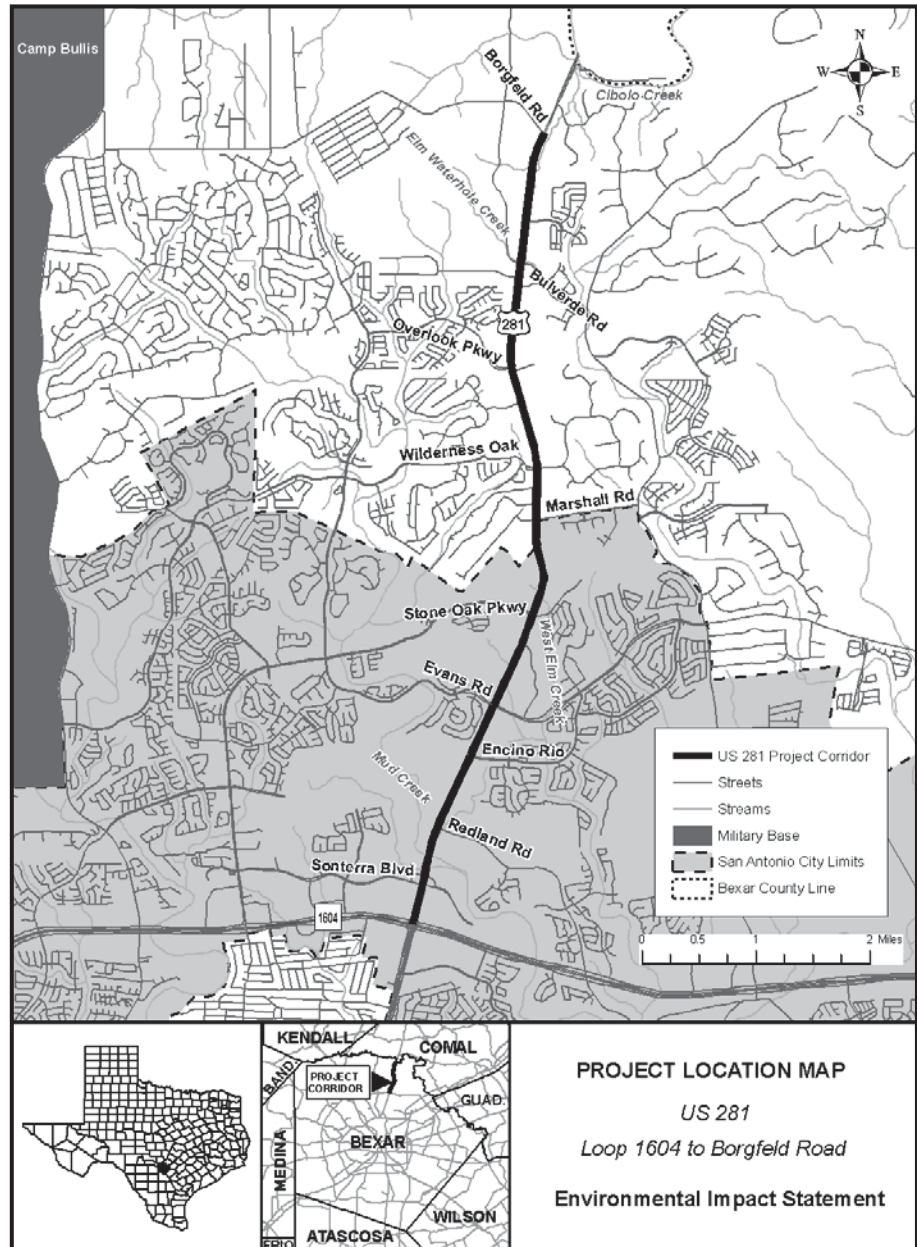


Figure 1
Project Location

III. Project History

In recent history, numerous transportation improvements have been completed and proposed along US 281 within the project corridor. These projects have been evaluated under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through a series of Categorical Exclusions (CEs) and Environmental Assessments (EAs). This Coordination Plan addresses the EIS currently being prepared for US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road.

In the late 1980s, a segment of US 281 between Bitters Road and Loop 1604 within the San Antonio city limits south of the subject project area was upgraded from a four-lane partial access-controlled divided roadway to an expressway facility with full access controlled through lanes and parallel partial access-controlled lanes that interface between the through travel lanes and the adjacent developments and streets. Since that time, land development has expanded along US 281 from Loop 1604 north into Comal County. To accommodate this growth, many improvements have been implemented over the years as detailed in **Table 1**.

Table 1: History of US 281 Improvements

Section	Construction Activity	Year Completed
US 281 from Loop 1604 to Comal County line	Construction of 2 lane to 4 lane	1975
US 281 at Encino Rio	Installation of traffic signal	1986
US 281, 0.6 miles north of 1604 to Comal County line	Surface treatment project	1987
US 281, from 0.6 miles north of Loop 1604 to Comal County line	Seal coat shoulder, crossovers and driveways	1988
US 281, from Bitters to 0.5 miles north of Loop 1604	Expand to 6-lane expressway, including 3-level diamond interchange at Loop 1604	1990
US 281, 3.8 miles north of 1604 to the Comal County line	Novachip project	1992
US 281, from 0.6 miles north of 1604 to 4 miles south of Comal County line	Micro surfacing project	1995
US 281 at Bulverde	Installation of flashing beacon	1998
US 281 at Borgfeld	Installation of flashing beacon	1998
US 281 at Evans Road	Installation of traffic signals	1998
US 281 from Redland Road to Stone Oak	Shoulder restriping	2000
US 281 from Loop 1604 to Comal County line	Texturizing shoulders	2002
US 281 at Stone Oak	Installation of traffic signal	2002
US 281 at Bulverde	Installation of traffic signals	2003
US 281 at Borgfeld	Installation of traffic signals	2003
US 281 at Sonterra	Construction of Interchange	2004
US 281 at Marshall Road	Installation of traffic signal	2006
US 281 at Overlook Parkway	Installation of traffic signal	2006

The environmental documentation history related to these improvements is summarized in **Table 2**. The initial NEPA action on these projects is the FHWA issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on August 8, 1984 for an EA on a project to add capacity to US 281 from Bitters Road to 2.5 miles north of Loop 1604 (approximately Evans Road). Portions of this EA were reevaluated in 2000 and 2005 with the same FONSI determination. Three CEs for improvements to the interchanges with US 281 at Loop 1604, Stone Oak Parkway and Borgfeld Road were also approved by the FHWA indicating that only insignificant impacts would occur from the proposed actions. The Stone Oak Parkway CE was reevaluated along with the US 281 EA from Loop 1604 to Marshall Road and was reaffirmed on May 24, 2005.

Table 2: History of US 281 Environmental Documentation

Highway	Limits	Document Type and Approval	Approving Authority	Approval Date
US 281	Bitters Road to 2.5 miles north of Loop 1604 (Evans Road)	EA – FONSI	FHWA	August 8, 1984
US 281	Sonterra Blvd. (0.4 mile north of Loop 1604) to 2.5 miles north of Loop 1604 (Evans Road)	EA Reevaluation – FONSI	FHWA	December 11, 2000
US 281	At Stone Oak Parkway	CE	FHWA	June 2, 2002
US 281	At Borgfeld Road	CE	FHWA	September 5, 2002
US 281	At Loop 1604 Interchange	CE	FHWA	March 31, 2005
US 281	Loop 1604 to Marshall Road	EA Reevaluation – FONSI	FHWA	May 24, 2005 (Approval Withdrawn)
US 281	Evans Road to Borgfeld Road	EA – FONSI	FHWA	November 8, 2005 (Approval Withdrawn)
US 281	Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road	EA – FONSI	FHWA	August 14, 2007 (Approval Withdrawn)
US 281	At Encino Rio Road, Evans Road, Stone Oak Parkway and Marshall Road (“Super Street Project”)	CE	FHWA	September 30, 2009
US 281	At Loop 1604 Interchange	CE	FHWA	In Process

The US 281 (Loop 1604 to Marshall Road) project was let to construction in September 2005. Following a motion for preliminary injunction filed by Aquifer Guardians in Urban Areas, and People for Efficient Transportation, Inc. (collectively “AGUA”) on December 21, 2005 seeking to bar further land clearing and construction on the expansion of US 281 north of Loop 1604 because of inadequate consideration of environmental issues, TxDOT prepared and submitted a letter to FHWA on January 10, 2006 requesting assistance in shaping an appropriate course of action in light of the review of the environmental studies on US 281 projects in northern Bexar County. FHWA reviewed TxDOT’s request and concurred that, under 23 CFR § 771.115, TxDOT could proceed with the preparation of a new EA and further concurred with TxDOT’s recommendation that a single EA be completed to address the environmental elements and factors for the project in the US 281 corridor from approximately Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. With FHWA’s concurrence in the initiation of a new environmental document and recognition of issues raised by the public, FHWA withdrew prior environmental clearances on both 2005 US 281 EAs identified in **Table 2** resulting in the cancellation of construction activities along US 281 from Loop 1604 to Marshall Road. FHWA then directed TxDOT to prepare one comprehensive environmental assessment for the US 281 project area from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road within Bexar County.

The most recent EA project concluded with FHWA’s issuance of a FONSI in August, 2007. A Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief was filed in February 2008 by Aquifer Guardians in Urban Areas (AGUA) and Texans Uniting for Reform and Freedom (TURF) in US District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division, against FHWA, TxDOT and the Alamo RMA. In October 2008 FHWA decided to withdraw the FONSI following TxDOT’s announcement regarding irregularities in the procurement of a scientific services contract, calling into question components of the environmental document. FHWA called for the preparation of an EIS for US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road, and assigned the responsibility of preparing the EIS to the Alamo RMA. The 2008 lawsuit was administratively closed by the Court on February 5, 2009.

“Super Street Project”

On September 30, 2009 the FHWA approved a CE for operational improvements on US 281 at Encino Rio Road, Evans Road, Stone Oak Parkway and Marshall Road, commonly referred to as the “Super Street Project.” The project would temporarily improve traffic flow and increase safety for US 281 commuters between Encino Rio Road and Marshall Road. The project covers approximately 3.1 miles. The Super Street Project is expected to be paid for with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), the Advanced Transportation District and the City of San Antonio.

US 281 / Loop 1604 Interchange

The Alamo RMA is also currently preparing a new CE for the US 281 / Loop 1604 Interchange. The project includes the design and construction of four proposed direct connector ramps of an ultimate five-level direct connection interchange, of which three levels currently exist, between US 281 and Loop 1604. As part of Recovery Act and TxDOT Proposition 14 bond funds, the Alamo RMA is expected to receive \$140 Million in funding to construct four non-toll direct connectors between US 281 and Loop 1604 on the north side of San Antonio. The following direct connector ramps are proposed to be constructed:

- 1) Northbound US 281 to westbound Loop 1604;
- 2) Northbound US 281 to eastbound Loop 1604;
- 3) Eastbound Loop 1604 to southbound US 281; and
- 4) Westbound Loop 1604 to southbound US 281.

While the US 281 / Loop 1604 Interchange project would not add capacity to US 281 or Loop 1604, intermittent auxiliary lanes for traffic merging or diverging from the main lanes and ramp adjustments to accommodate the new direct connector locations and other operational considerations will be included within the project. On March 27, 2009, the Alamo RMA issued a Request for Qualifications for Design / Build teams interested in constructing the non-toll connectors. The four connectors will help provide direct access between these two roadways for approximately 50,000 vehicles a day when construction is finished.

Any decision made on the US 281 / Loop 1604 Interchange project will in no way predetermine any future improvements to US 281 or Loop 1604. Any other projects on US 281 or Loop 1604 will require additional studies.

IV. Draft Need and Purpose

The project need and purpose describes the reasons why action is being considered in the US 281 Corridor and the desired purposes and objectives that the alternative actions must address. It functions as a means to understand historical trends and future projections along the corridor and to set benchmarks for 2009 conditions. The benchmarks help shape criteria used to evaluate alternative actions and will be used as a means to measure proposed alternatives against 2009 conditions and each other. The project need and purpose guides the identification of reasonable alternatives and assists in the selection of the preferred alternative.

Need for the project

The need for the project was the focus of the first Community Advisory Committee meeting, held on August 20, 2009 and the first public scoping meeting, held on August 27, 2009. Based on preliminary research as well as comments expressed by the lead, cooperating and participating agencies, the Community Advisory Committee and the public, a set of four distinct but interrelated needs were determined for the US 281 project. These four need areas are described in more detail below.

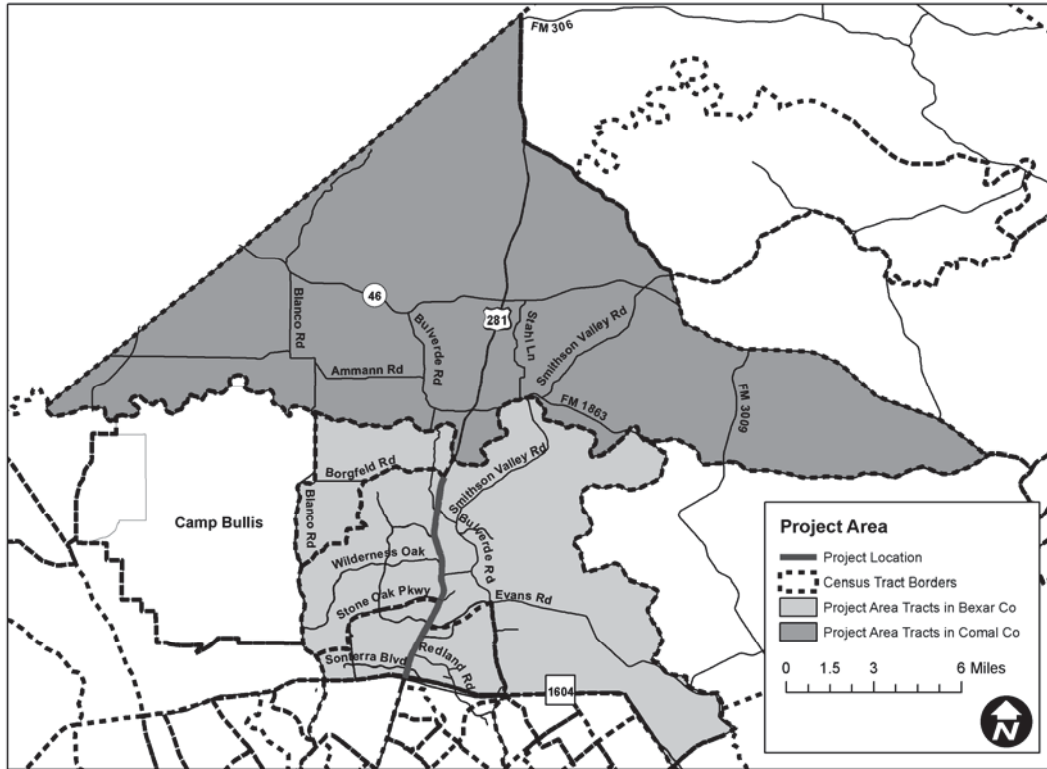


Figure 2
Project Area: Geographic Area Used for Growth Analysis

Growth: The need for improvements to US 281 has resulted from a historic and continuing trend in population and employment growth within the project corridor and surrounding areas. **Figure 2** shows the geographic area used for the growth analysis. The area provides a common geography for the analysis of historical population data from the US Census Bureau and from population projections developed by the SA-BC MPO.

From the 1970's through the early 1980's, the land around the US 281 corridor was largely rural and undeveloped. In the late 1980's and 1990's, the area witnessed a change in the population growth trend as land started to be developed, primarily for single-family residential homes. Based on US Census tract data, the population growth between 1990 and 2000 along the corridor was 209% in Bexar County and 110% in Comal County. Since 2000, the area has continued to grow with the population increasing from 41,823 in 2000 to an estimated 86,505 in 2008. As the population surrounding the corridor grew, so too did the employment base and by 2005 there were 25,635 employees working in Bexar and Comal Counties within the corridor. (Source: US Census Bureau, and SA-BCMPO)

The rapid growth of population and employment within the corridor has resulted in a substantial increase in traffic. The Average Daily Traffic (ADT) on US 281, between Loop 1604 and Stone Oak Parkway, was 8,600 vehicles per day in 1980. The ADT on the same segment in 2007 was 112,000 vehicles per day, equating to a compound annual growth rate of about 10% per year as compared to less than 3% nationally. (Source: TxDOT, FHWA – Travel Monitoring).

The SA-BCMPO projects the population within the project corridor to almost double by 2035. Although the Bexar County part of the project area is projected to grow 201% from 2000 to 2035, the pace of growth is projected to slow in later years, with most of the 201% growth occurring between 2000 and 2015. In contrast, the pace of growth in Comal County is projected to increase over time. The Comal County part of the project area is projected to grow 240% from 2000 to 2035. By 2035, the population in Comal County is projected to comprise over half of the overall growth of the project area. Historic and projected population growth in the project area is shown in **Figure 3**.

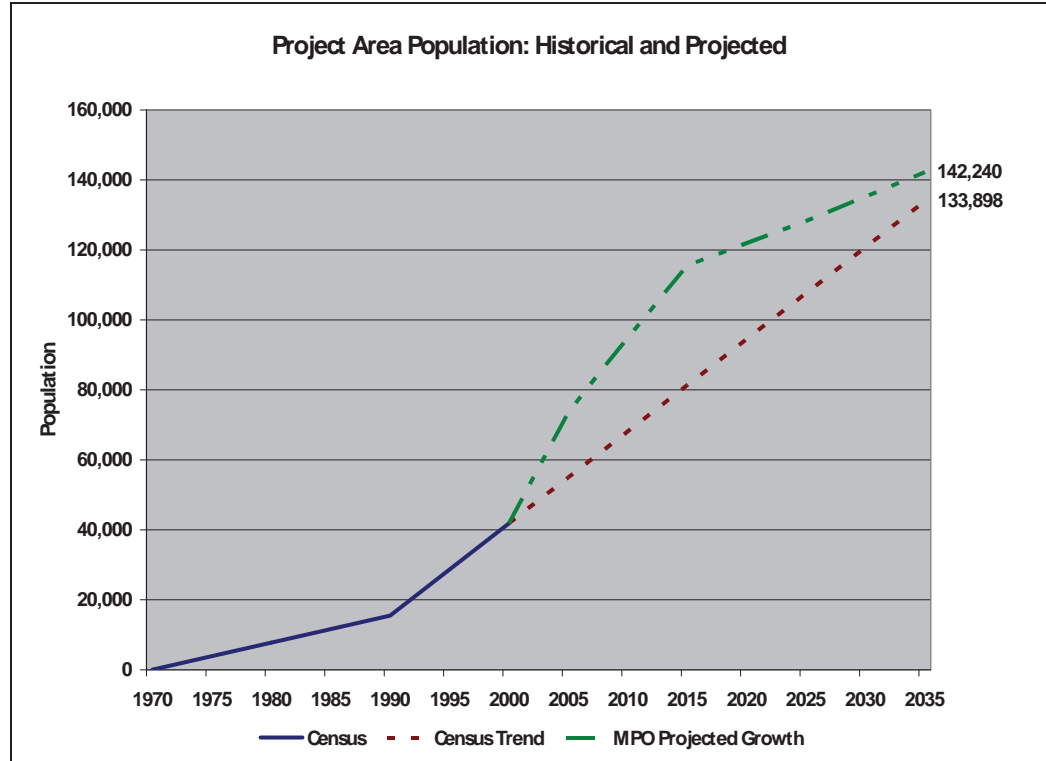


Figure 3
Historical and Projected Population Growth within US 281 Project Area

In terms of potential employment growth, the SA-BCMPO is projecting a 71% increase in the total number of jobs along the corridor from 2005 to 2035. In 2005, the MPO estimated there were 3,797 jobs in the Comal County portion of the project area and they are projecting 12,057 jobs by 2035 – a 218% increase. In the Bexar County portion of the project area, the MPO estimated 21,838 jobs in 2005 and is projecting 31,705 jobs by 2035 – a 45% increase. While the pace of projected job growth is greater in Comal County, by 2035, 73% of the projected 43,762 corridor-area jobs will be located in Bexar County. (Source: SA-BCMPO Demographic Forecast, 2009).

The improvements in transportation infrastructure within the project limits have not kept pace with the increases in population, employment and traffic. The last major capacity expansion was completed in 1990 when US 281 was expanded from four lanes to six lanes from Loop 1604 to Stone Oak Parkway. As a result, the current travel demand is not being adequately met.

Growth along the US 281 corridor is an important impetus for action. One of the purposes for the US 281 project is to develop a transportation solution that will accommodate the travel demand associated with population and employment growth. Alternative actions will be evaluated based on how well they can accommodate 2035 travel demand.

Functionality: Within the project limits, US 281 is classified by TxDOT as a Rural Minor Arterial from approximately Stone Oak Pkwy to Borgfeld Road and as an Urban Principal Arterial south of approximately Stone Oak Pkwy to Loop 1604. The roadway functional classes categorized by FHWA and used by TxDOT are based on the level of mobility and accessibility provided by the roadway. Those roadways that provide greater mobility generally should operate at high travel speeds and allow for faster trip times but less access to the adjacent land uses. Those roadways that offer greater accessibility generally should operate at lower speeds because they are designed to serve adjacent land uses. (Source: TxDOT, Statewide Planning Map, 2009.)

While US 281 is classified as an arterial roadway that is intended to provide a greater level of mobility, the rapid land development along the corridor has affected how it is currently used. In its current condition, the corridor must function to serve the needs of motorists desiring to travel through the area as well as the needs of local users who want to access adjacent land uses. The result is a conflict between the mobility needs of through travelers and accessibility needs of local travelers. The land use pattern of residential/commercial/other development, in combination with the current transportation network, requires a driver to use US 281 for many daily errands and trips. For example, much of the commercial development, including a major supermarket, is located on US 281 and is accessible by a limited number of local roads. This puts substantial amounts of local traffic on US 281 and/or requires that residents cross US 281 to get back and forth to the market from home. The competing uses of the US 281 corridor result in congestion and increased safety concerns. As the corridor continues to become more developed and dense, the competing uses of the corridor will also continue to cause conflicts.

Increased travel demand and conflicting traffic movement has led to deteriorating levels of service (LOS) during peak periods (the morning peak is 7am to 9am and the evening peak is 4pm to 6pm). During peak hours, US 281 south of Stone Oak Parkway operates at or below LOS D. LOS D represents an unstable flow of traffic which makes it more challenging for motorists to maneuver between lanes. Under free flow conditions, a motorist on US 281 can travel between Bulverde Road and Loop 1604 in about six minutes. Current level of service conditions require a southbound traveler, on the same route, to drive for 28 minutes during the morning peak, and a northbound traveler 19 minutes during the evening peak. (Source: Proposed US Highway 281 Super Street Traffic Study, June 2009).

The competing functions of the US 281 corridor and resulting decline in LOS and average speed is another reason to pursue action. Therefore, another purpose for the US 281 project is to improve the LOS, increase average speed and reduce conflicts between local and through traffic. Alternative actions will be evaluated based on how well they reduce the conflicts between competing uses and increase level of service on the roadway.

Safety: Because of increasing congestion and conflict between local and through traffic, a substantial rise in the number of accidents along the corridor has occurred. From 2003 to 2007 the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) reported 2,206 crashes along the US 281 corridor between Loop 1604 and the Comal-Bexar County Line. Of the total number of crashes, six were fatal, 131 resulted in injuries, and the remaining 2,069 resulted in no injury, possible injury or severity unknown. The annual number of crashes along the corridor has increased over the five-year period by 32.5%; in 2003 there were a total of 388 crashes and in 2007 there were 514 crashes. (Source: TxDOT, Traffic Operations Division, June 2009.)

The crash rate along US 281 was compared with the statewide average crash rates for similar facilities (US Highways and four-lane divided facilities). The crash rate on US 281 is much higher than comparable urban facilities (**Figure 4**). Similarly, the section north of Stone Oak Parkway was compared with comparable rural facilities. In this case, the crash rate on US 281 used to be lower than comparable rural facilities but recently has begun increasing to levels substantially above comparable rural facilities (**Figure 5**). Increased travel demand and conflicts between local and through traffic have created a very strong need for improving the safety along the corridor.

The crash rate on the US 281 roadway (both for the urban as well as the rural segments) is substantially greater than comparable roadways in Texas putting US 281 motorists at risk. This is another reason why action is being considered for this corridor. Alternative actions will be evaluated based on their ability to minimize conflict points and congestion that lead to crashes.

Quality of Life: The current conditions on US 281 have a direct impact on the quality of life for those who live and work along the corridor, for the natural environment, and the diversity of life that exists along the corridor. Factors such as travel delay, vehicle emissions, and lack of mobility choices cause frustration, health concerns as well as costs to the community.

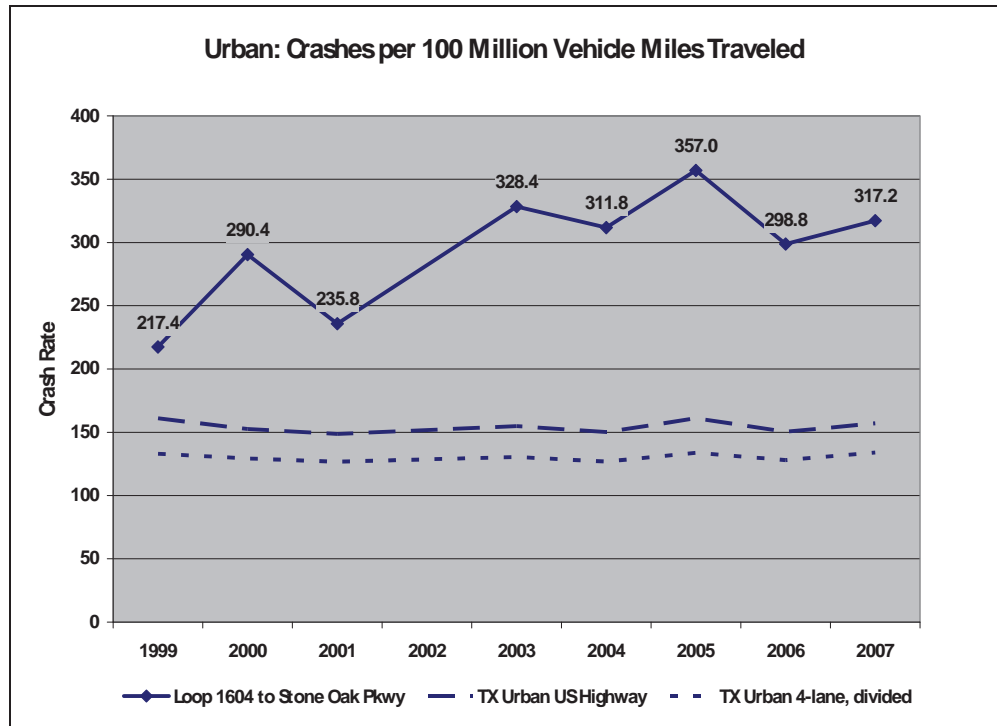


Figure 4
Crash Rates of the Urban Section of US 281 Compared to Similar Roadways in Texas

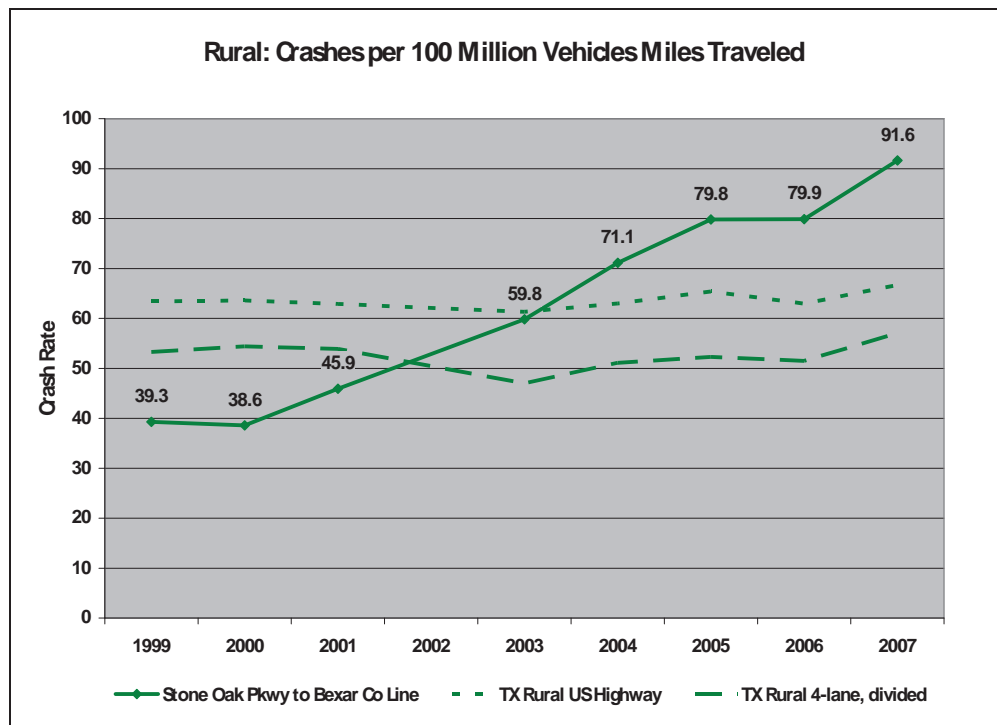


Figure 5
Crash Rates of the Rural Section of US 281 Compared to Similar Roadways in Texas

As explained above, rapid growth and the lack of transportation improvements have contributed to reduced LOS, increased crashes and longer travel delays along the US 281 corridor. When travelers sit in traffic, it is time away from work, family and/or recreation, which in turn, generally has a negative impact on quality of life. The average annual hours of delay on the US 281 corridor (between Loop 1604 and Marshall Road) were approximately 233,000 hours in 2006 and are expected to increase to more than 635,000 hours by 2014. This lost time sitting in traffic is not only frustrating but has an associated cost to the community. Even with the Super Street improvements, the annual cost of delay due to lost time during travel is expected to increase from approximately \$2.9 million per year in 2006 to \$7.9 million per year in 2014. (Source: Proposed US Highway 281 Super Street Traffic Study, June 2009).

The level of delay and congestion on US 281 has diminished the area's air quality, as idling and slow moving vehicles produce greater amounts of emissions than free flowing vehicles. In the recent past, emission levels on the US 281 corridor contributed to putting the area in non-attainment status for ozone with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) air quality standards. This region of Bexar County remains a concern to federal, state and local environmental agencies as well as the community. According to the EPA, vehicles are the dominant source of air toxics that pose potential respiratory health risk along the US 281 corridor. The diminished air quality also means an increase in smog and a decrease in visibility. This makes the US 281 corridor a less desirable place to live, work and play. Even with the Super Street improvements, overall emission levels along the corridor are expected to increase by about 46% between 2006 and 2014. (Source: EPA - National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment, 1996, 1999 & 2002 and Proposed US Highway 281 Super Street Traffic Study, June 2009).

Another factor affecting the quality of life is lack of choice in terms of alternative modes of transportation. Although the San Antonio area is served by VIA buses, there is only one route near the corridor which stops near the Loop 1604/US 281 intersection – the rest of the corridor is not currently served by public transportation. It is also very difficult for pedestrians or bicyclists to safely navigate along the corridor. The transportation network in the US 281 corridor is better suited for vehicles as there are limited bike lanes, sidewalks and crosswalks. Residents, employees and shoppers have to rely on automobiles for their travel needs in the absence of public transit services and pedestrian-oriented design.

The negative impacts on quality of life as a result of current and forecasted conditions along US 281 are important factors contributing to the need for action in the corridor. The purpose in pursuing action includes improving air quality and increasing transportation choices for those that use the corridor.

Several additional objectives have been identified through the public and public agency involvement process. These have to do with avoiding tolls, protecting the environment, providing aesthetics and landscaping, mitigating traffic noise, managing storm water runoff, and avoiding impacts to threatened and endangered species.

Purpose of the Proposed Action

Without additional transportation improvements it is anticipated that population and employment growth within the US 281 corridor will result in increased levels of vehicular traffic, crashes and travel delays. Without improvements, accessibility within the corridor is anticipated to become increasingly constrained, its functionality as part of a regional transportation system would decline, and the overall community quality of life would diminish. The purposes of the proposed action are to address future growth, improve mobility, enhance safety, and improve community quality of life.

V. Agency Roles and Responsibilities

SAFETEA-LU requires identification of lead, cooperating, and participating agencies in the development of an EIS. The lead Federal agency (FHWA) and the joint lead agencies (TxDOT and the Alamo RMA) must identify and involve participating agencies; develop the Coordination Plan; provide opportunities for public, cooperating and participating agency involvement in defining the need and purpose and determining project alternatives; and collaborate with participating agencies in determining methodologies and the level of detail for the analysis of

project alternatives. In addition, lead agencies must provide oversight in managing the environmental documentation process and resolving issues.

Federal Lead Agency: FHWA is the U.S. Department of Transportation agency responsible for NEPA analysis, management of the SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 process, and independent review of the EIS. FHWA will ensure that the project sponsors (TxDOT and the Alamo RMA) comply with all design and mitigation commitments in the Record of Decision (ROD) and that the EIS is appropriately supplemented if changes in the project become necessary.

Joint Lead Agencies: TxDOT, as project sponsor and direct recipient of SAFETEA-LU funds, is a joint lead agency. The “project sponsor” is defined as the agency or other entity, including any private or public-private entity, which seeks approval of the United States Department of Transportation for a highway project. TxDOT’s responsibilities mirror those of the Federal lead agency.

The Alamo RMA is the project co-sponsor and implementation agency, primarily responsible for preparing environmental studies and the EIS document, and conducting required public involvement activities. The Joint Lead Agencies share in the responsibility to manage the SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 process, prepare the EIS, and provide opportunities for public and participating /cooperating agency involvement.

Cooperating Agencies: Federal, state, tribal, and local agencies having jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposed project or project alternative are designated as cooperating agencies. Cooperating agencies are also “participating agencies” (agencies with an interest in the project), but have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process than do participating agencies that are not also cooperating agencies. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for example, is specifically responsible for the issuance of permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Participating Agencies: All federal, state, tribal, regional or local governmental agencies that may have an interest in the project are invited to serve as participating agencies. The roles and responsibilities of these agencies include, but are not limited to:

- Participating in the NEPA process starting at the earliest possible time, especially with regard to the development of the need and purpose statement, project alternatives, methodologies, and the level of detail for the analysis of project alternatives.
- Identifying, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project’s potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts. Participating agencies also may participate in the issue resolution process.
- Participating in the scoping process. The scoping process will be designed so that agencies whose interest in the project comes to light as a result of initial scoping activities are invited to participate and still have an opportunity for involvement.
- Providing meaningful and timely input on unresolved issues.

The list of lead, joint-lead, cooperating and participating agencies is provided in **Table 3**. Federal agencies and tribal agencies were identified and contacted by FHWA; TxDOT identified and contacted the state agencies, and the Alamo RMA identified and contacted the local agencies. Sample letters sent to the agencies are included in **Appendix 1**.

Table 3: List of Agencies

Agency Name	Contact Person/ Title	Address	Role	Responsibilities
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	Ted West Urban Engineer	300 East 8 th Street, Rm 826 Austin, TX 78701	Lead Agency	Manage SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 process; prepare EIS; provide opportunity for public & participating /cooperating agency involvement.
Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)	Stephen Ligon Interim Supervisor Environmental Resources Management Branch Environmental Affairs Division	125 E. 11th Street Austin, TX 78701-2483	Joint Lead Agency	Manage SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 process; prepare EIS; provide opportunity for public & participating /cooperating agency involvement.
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA)	Lisa Adelman Legal Counsel	1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000 San Antonio, Texas 78212	Joint Lead Agency	Manage SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 process; prepare EIS; provide opportunity for public & participating /cooperating agency involvement
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Steven Brooks Chief, Regulatory Branch Fort Worth District	P.O. Box 17300 Fort Worth, TX 76102	Cooperating Agency; Participating Agency	Section 404 Clean Water Act permit jurisdiction
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Donald W. Gohmert State Conservationist	101 South Main Temple, TX 76501	Cooperating Agency; Participating Agency	Analysis of effects on prime farmland, under Farmland Protection Policy Act
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Larry Starfield (Acting) Regional Administrator, Region 6	1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, TX 75202-2733	Cooperating Agency; Participating Agency	Review and comment on possible effects to air quality, under Section 309 of Clean Air Act
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Adam Zerrenner Supervisor, Austin Ecological Services Office	10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200 Austin, TX 78758	Cooperating Agency; Participating Agency	Section 7 Endangered Species Act permit jurisdiction
U.S. Department of the Interior	Willie R. Taylor, Ph.D. Director, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance	Main Interior Building (MS 2462) 1849 C. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240	Participating Agency	Coordinate with US Fish and Wildlife Service regarding Endangered Species Act; review any Section 4(f) involvement
BIA-Anadarko	Andele Worthington	P.O. Box 309 Anadarko, OK 73005	Participating Agency	Review of effects to archeological sites and traditional cultural properties under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303), and the North American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma	John Tointigh, Tribal Administrator	P.O. Box 1220 Anadarko, OK 73005	Participating Agency	
Wichita and Affiliated Tribes	Gary McAdams, President	P.O. Box 729 Anadarko, OK 73005	Participating Agency	
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	Ronnie Thomas, Chairperson	575 State Park Rd 56 Livingston, TX 77351	Participating Agency	
Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town	Tarpie Yargee, Chief	P.O. Box 187 Wetumka, OK 74883	Participating Agency	
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma	LaRue Parker, Chairperson	P.O. Box 487 Binger, OK 73009	Participating Agency	
Comanche Nation of Oklahoma	Ruth Toahty/NAGPRA Coordinator	P.O. Box 908 Lawton, OK 73502	Participating Agency	
Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma	Billy Evans Horse, Chairperson	P.O. Box 369 Carnegie, OK 73015	Participating Agency	

SAFETEA-LU 6002 Coordination Plan – US 281 EIS

Agency Name	Contact Person/ Title	Address	Role	Responsibilities
Mescalero Apache Tribe	Mark Chino, President	P.O. Box 227 Mescalero, NM 88340	Participating Agency	
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma	Enoch Kelley Haney, Principal Chief	P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, OK 74884	Participating Agency	
The Delaware Nation	Edgar French President	P.O. Box 825 Anadarko, OK 73005	Participating Agency	
Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma	Anthony Street President	1 Rush Buffalo Road Tonkawa, OK 74653	Participating Agency	
Camp Bullis (U.S. Army)	Frank Sherman City of San Antonio, Office of Military Affairs	P.O. Box 839966 San Antonio, TX 78283-3966	Participating Agency	Review potential land use impacts, including indirect and cumulative effects and potential compatibility issues
Texas Historical Commission	Mark Wolfe Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 12276 Austin, TX 78711-2276	Cooperating Agency; Participating Agency	Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303)
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TP&WD)	Carter Smith Executive Director	4200 Smith School Road Austin, TX 78744	Participating Agency	Review project effects under Memorandum of Understanding and Memorandum of Agreement between TxDOT and TPWD
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	Mark R. Vickery, P.G. Executive Director	P.O. Box 13087 Austin, TX 78711-3087	Participating Agency	Review project impacts to air quality, hazardous material sites, compliance with the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES); and compliance with the Edwards Aquifer Rules
Bexar County	Nelson W. Wolff County Judge	Bexar County Courthouse 100 Dolorosa, Suite 1.20 San Antonio, TX 78205	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental effects within the county's jurisdiction
City of San Antonio	Julián Castro Mayor	PO Box 839966 San Antonio, TX 78283	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of project effects to areas within the city limits and area of extraterritorial jurisdiction
Comal County	Danny Scheel County Judge	199 Main Plaza New Braunfels, TX 78130	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental effects within the county's jurisdiction

SAFETEA-LU 6002 Coordination Plan – US 281 EIS

Agency Name	Contact Person/ Title	Address	Role	Responsibilities
City of Bulverde	Ray Jeffrey Mayor	30360 Cougar Bend Bulverde, TX 78163	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of project effects to areas within the city limits and area of extraterritorial jurisdiction
Edwards Aquifer Authority	Velma R. Danielson General Manager	1615 N. St. Mary's Street San Antonio, TX 78215	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of project effects to areas within the agency's jurisdiction.
San Antonio Water System	Robert R. Puente , J.D. President/CEO	P.O. Box 2449 San Antonio, TX 78298-2449	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of project effects to areas within the agency's jurisdiction.
San Antonio River Authority	Suzanne B. Scott General Manager	100 East Guenther St. San Antonio, Texas 78204	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of project effects to areas within the agency's jurisdiction.
San Antonio – Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization	Isidro Martinez Director	825 South Saint Mary's San Antonio, TX 78205	Participating Agency	Identification of issues relating to safety and mobility, system interconnectivity, and project effects to minority and low income populations
VIA Metropolitan Transit	Keith Parker President/CEO	800 W. Myrtle San Antonio, TX 78212	Participating Agency	Identification of issues relating to safety and mobility, system interconnectivity, and project effects to minority and low income populations
Alamo Area Council of Governments	Gloria C. Arriaga Executive Director	8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 700 San Antonio, TX 78217-6228	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental effects.
Bexar Metropolitan Water District	General Manager	P.O. Box 245994 San Antonio, TX 78224-5994	Participating Agency	Identification and resolution of project effects to areas within the agency's jurisdiction.

Status of Agency Responses

Letters of invitation, along with a copy of this coordination plan, were mailed to all Lead, Cooperating, and Participating Agencies as listed in **Table 3**. As of the November 2009 update of this document, the following agencies have returned a letter declining participation with the US 281 EIS.

Table 4. List of Decline Letters Received from Agencies

Agency Name	Date Decline Letter Received
U.S. Department of the Interior – U.S. Geological Survey	September 18, 2009
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas	September 16, 2009

VI. Agency Coordination, Public Involvement, and Scheduling

Lead agencies are responsible for preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement, including coordination of agency and public involvement. **Table 5** summarizes the activities and anticipated schedule for key coordination points. Deadlines and expected completion dates are indicated in the table. The Lead Agency and Joint Lead Agencies have agreed to work cooperatively to identify and resolve issues that could delay the completion of the environmental review process.

Cooperating and Participating Agency Coordination

Cooperating and Participating Agencies were asked to submit comments during scoping regarding the project's need and purpose, project alternatives, and their jurisdiction and/or special expertise related to the project area. An agency scoping meeting was conducted earlier in the day on the same date (August 27, 2009) and at the same location as the public scoping meeting. Following scoping, lead agencies will collaborate with cooperating and participating agencies on methodologies for documenting environmental conditions and assessing impacts. All agencies will be notified of the availability of draft and final EIS documents and given appropriate comment opportunities (see **Table 5**). Lead agencies will also coordinate with agencies on completion of necessary permits following the Record of Decision (ROD).

Peer Technical Review Committee

In November 2009, FHWA formed a Peer Technical Review Committee to assist the Lead Agencies. The Committee is comprised of those Cooperating and Participating agencies whose expertise will be sought at key coordination points during the EIS process. Key coordination points include the following:

- Development of need and purpose
- Identification of the range of alternatives
- Collaboration on methodologies
- Completion of the DEIS
- Identification of the preferred alternative and the level of design detail
- Completion of the FEIS
- Completion of the ROD
- Completion of permits, licenses, or approvals after the ROD

The Peer Technical Review Committee will meet approximately every three months during the EIS process to provide input in the data and methodologies for the EIS. FHWA will chair the committee to provide continuity and resolve differences. The initial list of Peer Technical Review Committee members includes the following agencies:

- FHWA (Committee Chair)
- TxDOT – Environmental Affairs Division
- TxDOT – San Antonio District
- Alamo RMA
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- San Antonio – Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Edwards Aquifer Authority
- San Antonio Water System
- VIA Metropolitan Transit
- Bexar County
- City of San Antonio

Coordination Plan

The public and Cooperating/Participating agencies were given 30 days to review and comment on the draft Coordination Plan. The deadline for comments was the end of September, 2009, which was after the initial

scoping meeting and before the second scoping meeting. Following the comment period the coordination plan was revised and submitted to FHWA for approval.

Public Involvement

Specific study elements will be directly influenced by public involvement. (See the Community Involvement Plan in **Appendix 2.**) The public will be offered an opportunity for input at critical periods of the EIS process:

- Two **public scoping meetings** will identify key project concerns and possible solutions that the lead agencies can use in developing the statement of the project need and purpose; determining the preliminary range of project alternatives, evaluation criteria, methodology for screening project alternatives, and level of detail for the analysis of project alternatives; and gathering data for impacts analysis. A 10-day comment period following each meeting will be provided for the public to submit comments to be included in the scoping report.
- A third **public meeting** will be conducted to review and comment on the reasonable project alternatives for evaluation in the Draft EIS. A 10-day comment period following the meeting will be provided.
- There will be a 45-day comment period following publication of the **Draft EIS Notice of Availability (NOA)** in the *Federal Register*, the *Texas Register*, and the local newspapers.
- Following the NOA 45-day comment period, a **public hearing** will be held to provide the public with the opportunity to review and comment on the **Draft EIS**. The public hearing will have a 30-day publication notice before the hearing and a 10-day comment period following the hearing.
- A **fourth public meeting** will be held following the public hearing to present the preferred alternative. A 10-day comment period following the meeting will be provided.
- There will be a 30-day waiting period following publication of the **Final EIS NOA**.
- A **Community Advisory Committee (CAC)** has been established consisting of 30-35 individuals representing community-based organizations interested in the project. The Alamo RMA Board of Directors designated the organizations to be represented, and each organization designated their representative on the Committee. The CAC will be convened to provide input and advise regarding the project need and purpose, development of project alternatives, review of the draft EIS, and identification of a preferred alternative. (See **Table 5**). The CAC's governing Charter is included in **Appendix 3**.

Methods of communication with the public throughout the project include:

- Prior to each public meeting and the public hearing, a project newsletter will be published in English and in Spanish, distributed both in hard copy and electronically, summarizing outcomes to date and announcing upcoming events.
- For public meetings and the public hearing, a legal notice and advertisement will be placed in the *San Antonio Express-News* and *La Prensa*, a Spanish-language newspaper with local distribution.
- A project website will be maintained throughout the project to provide updates and to solicit public comment on an on-going basis. The project URL is: <http://www.411on281.com>. The public will also be encouraged to use Internet sites such as Facebook and Twitter for the exchange of ideas and opinions about the US 281 EIS project. Although the social networking sites will not be used for responding to comments or issues regarding the US 281 EIS, they will be monitored for useful information that can improve the US 281 EIS public involvement program.
- A primary contact person has been designated for media and other organizations interested in the public involvement process: Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development, Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, 1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000, San Antonio, Texas 78212, (210) 495-5256.

Table 5. Summary of Project Activities, Participation and Scheduling

Activities	Participants	Actions	Expected Completion Dates (Bold Indicates Actual Completion Dates)
Project Initiation	Lead agencies	TxDOT notifies FHWA to initiate EIS	February 6, 2009
Notice of Intent (NOI)	Lead agencies	Lead agencies collaborate on drafting NOI. FHWA submits NOI to <i>Federal Register</i> for publication. TxDOT submits NOI to <i>Texas Register</i> for publication	<i>Federal Register</i> publication date: July 8, 2009 ; <i>Texas Register</i> publication date: July 24, 2009
Coordination Plan	Lead agencies	FHWA, TxDOT and the Alamo RMA will draft Coordination Plan	August 2009
	Cooperating and participating agencies	Comment on the draft Coordination Plan	August and September, 2009
	Public	Comment on the draft Coordination Plan	August and September, 2009
	Lead agencies	Lead agencies will revise Coordination Plan to reflect public and agency input and prepare final Coordination Plan	October and November, 2009
Scoping	Lead agencies	Invite cooperating and participating agency participation. Scoping meetings are scheduled for agencies. All entities requesting designation as participating agencies must notify the Alamo RMA by September 2009. Agency list updated as necessary	August 2009
	Community Advisory Committee	Initial meeting of the CAC will focus on description of roles and responsibilities, involvement of resource agencies, description of the project and schedule, discussion of need and purpose, and identification of preliminary range of project alternatives	August 18, 2009
	Cooperating and participating agencies	Agency scoping meetings followed by 10-day scoping comment period	August 27, 2009 and November 2009
	Public	Public scoping meetings, followed by 10-day scoping comment period	August 27, 2009 and November 2009
Collaboration on methodologies, assessments and impacts	All agencies	Following scoping, lead agencies will collaborate with agencies on information and analyses necessary for drafting the “need & purpose,” project alternatives, existing environmental conditions, and impacts	September 2009 through project completion
Development of Project “Need & Purpose”	Lead agencies	Develop draft project “need & purpose”	July and August 2009
	Community Advisory Committee	Participate in defining the project’s “need & purpose”	August – November 2009
	Public	Provide input on need and purpose, range of alternatives	August – November 2009
	Cooperating and participating agencies	Lead agencies will solicit comments from other agencies on the draft “need & purpose”	August – November 2009
	Lead agencies	Revise “need & purpose”	November 2009

SAFETEA-LU 6002 Coordination Plan – US 281 EIS

Activities	Participants	Actions	Expected Completion Dates (Bold Indicates Actual Completion Dates)
Development of Project Alternatives	Lead agencies	Develop preliminary range of project alternatives, evaluation criteria, methodology for screening project alternatives, and level of detail for the analysis of project alternatives	August – November 2009
	Community Advisory Committee	Participate in defining preliminary range of project alternatives	August – November 2009
	Cooperating and participating agencies	Lead agencies will solicit comments from other agencies on preliminary range of project alternatives	August – November 2009
	Public	Provide input on range of alternatives	August – November 2009
	Community Advisory Committee	Review project alternatives development process	November 2009 and March 2010
	Lead agencies	Lead agencies will make revisions to project alternatives based on public input	November 2009 – March 2010
	Public	Review and comment on reasonable project alternatives for evaluation in the Draft EIS (Public Meeting #3)	March 2010
Draft EIS	Lead Agencies	Right-of-Entry forms requesting access will be mailed to property owners along the reasonable project alternatives in order to conduct environmental studies that are necessary for analysis of potential project effects	April 2010
	Community Advisory Committee	CAC meetings will be held periodically during the preparation of the Draft EIS to provide input on issues related to potential project impacts and mitigation measures, public hearing plans and materials	March 2010 – February 2011
	Peer Technical Review Committee	Provide input in the data and methodologies for the Draft EIS	March 2010 – February 2011
	Lead agencies	Draft EIS NOA. FHWA submits NOA to <i>Federal Register</i> for publication. TxDOT submits NOA to <i>Texas Register</i> for publication	March/April 2011
	Cooperating and Participating Agencies	Review and comment on draft EIS	March/April 2011
	Public	Review and comment on draft EIS during the 45 days following publication of the NOA. Public hearing on Draft EIS, followed by 10-day comment period	March/April 2011
Final EIS	Lead agencies	Review public and agency comments and responses and review schedule for Final EIS to revise DEIS as necessary to address public input	May 2011
	Peer Technical Review Committee	Provide input into the identification and development of the preferred alternative and Final EIS	May – December 2011
	Community Advisory Committee	Review and comment on preferred alternative and schedule/content for Final EIS	May – December 2011
	Lead agencies	Develop schematic design for the preferred alternative and prepare the Final EIS	May – December 2011

SAFETEA-LU 6002 Coordination Plan – US 281 EIS

Activities	Participants	Actions	Expected Completion Dates (Bold Indicates Actual Completion Dates)
	Public	A public meeting on identification of the preferred alternative, followed by a 10-day comment period. Information on release of Final EIS will be available to the public through the project website	August 2011
	Lead agencies	Final EIS Notice of Availability (NOA) FHWA submits NOA to <i>Federal Register</i> for publication. TxDOT submits NOA to <i>Texas Register</i> for publication	December 2011
	All Agencies and the Public	30-day waiting period prior to ROD	January 2012
Record of Decision (ROD)	Peer Technical Review Committee	Provide input into the development of the ROD	January 2012
	Lead agencies	Submit ROD; FHWA will publish the ROD in the <i>Federal Register</i> ; TxDOT will publish the ROD in the <i>Texas Register</i>	February 2012
Next Steps	Community Advisory Committee	A final CAC meeting will be conducted following the ROD to present and discuss the next steps of the project development process	February 2012
	Alamo RMA	Obtain necessary permits, licenses, or approvals after the ROD	Spring 2012
	Peer Technical Review Committee	Review completion of necessary permits, licenses, or approvals	Summer/Fall 2012

Revisions to the Coordination Plan

If any dates specified in this Coordination Plan are moved forward in the schedule (to an earlier date), concurrence will be sought from the affected Cooperating Agencies. Following concurrence, a revised Coordination Plan will be issued. The modified Coordination Plan will be identified by a modification number and date. Modifications are described on p. i, (before the table of contents). Changes in Cooperating Agencies / Participating Agencies will be made as necessary. The public will be made aware of modifications to the Coordination Plan by posting the modified plan to the project website, <http://www.411on281.com>.

APPENDIX 1:

Sample Letters to Cooperating and Participating Agencies



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Texas Division

August 14, 2009

300 E. 8th Street, Room 826
Austin, TX 78701-3255
Tel (512) 536-5901
Fax (512) 536-5990
texas.fhwa@dot.gov

In Reply Refer To:
HA-TX

SAMPLE LETTER OF INVITATION – COOPERATING AND PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

US 281 EIS

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) is initiating an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed transportation project on US 281. The project limits are from Loop 1604 north of San Antonio, Texas, to Borgfeld Road near the Bexar/Comal County line (CSJ 0253-04-138). The objectives of US 281 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve mobility, enhance safety, and improve community quality of life. Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that may have an interest in the proposed project due to the potential for a [NATURE OF INTEREST]. With this letter, we extend your agency an invitation to become a Participating Agency with the FHWA in the development of the EIS for the subject project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

FHWA also requests the participation of the [AGENCY] as a Cooperating Agency in the preparation of the DEIS and FEIS, in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.6 of the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provision of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Cooperating Agencies are similar to Participating Agencies, but have a higher degree of authority, responsibility, and involvement in the environmental review process. As a Cooperating Agency, your special expertise permits you, as requested by the Lead Agency, to develop information and prepare environmental analyses for the EIS. As a Participating Agency responsibilities include identifying, as early as practicable,



any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- 1: Provide meaningful and early input on defining the purpose and need, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the alternatives analysis.
- 2: Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
- 3: Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Again, FHWA is inviting the [AGENCY] to serve in both a Cooperating Agency capacity as well as a Participating Agency capacity. Please respond to FHWA in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitations prior to September 15, 2009. If your agency declines, the response should state your reason for declining either invitation. If you choose to decline, you must specifically state in your response that your agency:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the proposed project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the proposed project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the proposed project.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Cooperating and Participating Agencies.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2009, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church Gymnasium, 1602 Thousand Oaks Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78232. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House anytime between 5:30 pm and 8:00 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Mr. Ted West, P.E., Urban Programs Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
300 E. 8th Street, Ste. 826
Austin, Texas 78701-3233
(512) 536-5959

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Salvador Deocampo
District Engineer

Enclosures: Project NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Study Area Map

cc: Ms. Lisa Adelman, Alamo RMA
Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E., TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division Director

SAMPLE LETTER OF INVITATION TO PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

US 281 EIS

The Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), is initiating an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed transportation project on US 281. The project limits are from Loop 1604 north of San Antonio, Texas, to Borgfeld Road near the Bexar/Comal County line (CSJ 0253-04-138). The objectives of US 281 corridor improvements, as currently defined, are to improve mobility, enhance safety, and improve community quality of life. Additional information regarding the proposed project can be found in the enclosed Notice of Intent (NOI).

Your agency has been identified as an agency that may have an interest in the proposed project. With this letter, we extend your agency an invitation to become a Participating Agency with the Alamo RMA in the development of the EIS for the subject project. This designation does not imply that your agency either supports the proposal or has any special expertise with respect to evaluation of the proposed project.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Participating Agencies are responsible to identify, as early as practicable, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for the project. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- 1: Provide meaningful and early input on defining the purpose and need, determining the range of alternatives to be considered, and the methodologies and level of detail required in the alternatives analysis.
- 2: Participate in coordination meetings and joint field reviews as appropriate.
- 3: Timely review and comment on the pre-draft or pre-final environmental documents to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

Please respond to the Alamo RMA in writing by September 15, 2009 if your agency wishes to become a Participating Agency.

We are also transmitting a copy of the draft SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Coordination Plan for your review and comment. The draft Coordination Plan provides additional

insight regarding the overall Section 6002 process as well as specific roles and responsibilities for Cooperating and Participating Agencies.

Finally, we are inviting your participation at the upcoming Scoping Meeting. An Agency Scoping Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2009, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church Gymnasium, 1602 Thousand Oaks Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78232. Later that same day and at the same location, the public is invited to attend a Public Scoping Meeting/Open House anytime between 5:30 pm and 8:00 pm.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the proposed project or our agencies' respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of this EIS, please contact:

Ms. Lisa Adelman
Legal Counsel to the Alamo RMA
1222 N. Main Ave, 10th Floor
San Antonio, Texas 78212
(210) 495-5499

Thank you for your cooperation and interest in this proposed project.

Sincerely,

Terry Brechtel
Executive Director

Enclosures: Project NOI, Draft Coordination Plan, Study Area Map

cc: Ms. Dianna F. Noble, P.E., TxDOT – Environmental Affairs Division
Mr. Salvador Deocampo, District Engineer, Texas Division, FHWA

APPENDIX 2:

US 281 EIS Community Involvement Plan



US 281 Environmental Impact Statement

Community Involvement Plan

(Revised Draft)

August 2009

Introduction and Purpose

As the US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) study moves forward, the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) wants to ensure all stakeholders are informed and involved each step of the way. Many local residents using US 281 from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road have been very tolerant as they continue to see development and, consequently, increased congestion along this stretch of the corridor. Before any long-term solutions can commence, the completion of an EIS study is required. This EIS study is being conducted to assist decision makers by detailing proposed improvement alternatives and evaluating the degree to which the proposals affect public health, safety and the environment.

Public outreach and input are vital parts of this study, and this Community Involvement Plan (CIP) outlines the EIS team's understanding, concepts and strategies for not only accomplishing, but exceeding, the requirements for public involvement and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). (NEPA dictates policies and procedures for the EIS.) The EIS public involvement team is committed to engaging stakeholders* and involving them in this study. The EIS team is comprised of Jacobs Engineering Group LLC and their small business teaming partners of Ximenes & Associates and SMITH/Associates. This EIS team supports the Alamo RMA in all EIS public involvement activities and initiatives. The team's intent is to ensure that every concern, idea, suggestion and voice be heard as the EIS study moves forward.

Whatever the ultimate outcome of the US 281 EIS, the surrounding community it serves will be the greatest barometer of its success. To that end, the Alamo RMA is committed to working together with the community to help accomplish a mutual vision of how best to improve mobility along the US 281 corridor.

**A list of initially identified stakeholders can be found on page six of this CIP. This list will be continually updated throughout the study.*

Addressing Challenges

The EIS team has recognized and wants to address public perceptions about the history of the US 281 corridor. Because of this, the team has identified public involvement challenges and developed initiatives to address these challenges within this CIP.

The first public involvement challenge is a lack of public trust in the process. The EIS team will counter this lack of trust with transparency and open and honest

communication. Initiatives in this CIP will demonstrate through action that the team is committed to engaging the community and involving them in every step of this EIS study. One example of this in action is the creation of the Community Advisory Committee, which will provide meaningful, regular oversight of community involvement activities. The second identified challenge is keeping the community actively involved. The EIS team will use proactive outreach initiatives to not only involve those who are interested, but also interest those who are not involved. This will be accomplished by visiting local agency and community group meetings to explain the EIS study and stress the importance of their participation in the process. In short, the team must seek out community members instead of forcing them to seek out public involvement opportunities on their own.

Finally, people have a negative perception of past activities related to US 281. When people think about US 281, they think about the delays, the disruption, and the continued need for a long-term solution to congestion in the corridor. They rarely start by thinking of the increased mobility, enhanced safety, and other benefits of potential transportation improvements identified in this EIS study. This final challenge will be countered by aggressively seeking the public's comments and suggestions for how to improve not only mobility, but their quality of life as they live and travel within the corridor area. This public involvement effort will be successful because communication will continually be directed toward the community's vision for an enhanced US 281 corridor.

Public Engagement Activities

Face-to-Face Interactions

Public Meetings and Public Hearing

During the course of the study, the EIS team will conduct public meetings to engage the community, share information and ask the community for their comments. There are four public meetings and one public hearing planned to correspond with milestones in the EIS study. These meetings will be opportunities for the public to learn about and comment on each part of the EIS study.

The following meetings are tentatively scheduled during the course of the study:

- **August 2009**
Public Scoping Meeting #1 – Need and Purpose
- **November 2009**
Public Scoping Meeting #2 – Preliminary Alternatives
- **February 2010**
Public Meeting #3 – Reasonable Alternatives
- **April 2011**
Public Hearing – Draft EIS
- **August 2011**

Public Meeting #4 – Preferred Alternative

These public meetings will be both informative and interactive. With each public meeting, the meeting location will be moved along the US 281 corridor to help accommodate stakeholder commute routes and schedules. Open house formats will be utilized when appropriate to allow attendees to come and go as they please and create opportunities for two-way dialogue with the EIS team.

The public will be notified in advance of the meetings through newspaper advertisements, legal notices, email blasts, social media sites like Facebook and Twitter, and other media outlets. The EIS team will also mail public notices in the form of project newsletters to all adjacent property owners, as well as other identified interested members of the public. Additional media relations for each public meeting/hearing will include press releases, requests for coverage, public service announcements, and media kits.

The EIS team will compile comments received at each public meeting/hearing and ensure these comments are included in the official US 281 EIS record. The EIS team will consider and respond to all written comments. Following each public meeting/hearing, all documents, presentations, comments and responses, and other materials will be available on the EIS pages at www.411on281.com.

Community Advisory Committee

A Community Advisory Committee (CAC) will provide the EIS team with insights into concerns and comments being voiced in the community. The US 281 Community Advisory Committee will be comprised of key stakeholder groups that live or work along the US 281 corridor, and will include representatives of civic, community and environmental groups, educational institutions, and businesses located along the corridor.

The US 281 Community Advisory Committee will:

- Be a voice of the community related to the EIS study
- Provide input and feedback for the development of mobility solutions that are sensitive to transportation, environmental and social needs
- Create an additional information exchange forum for stakeholders along the US 281 corridor and the Alamo RMA

(See **Attachment #1** for the Community Advisory Committee charter.)

Elected and Appointed Official Outreach

It is important that elected and appointed officials remain informed and engaged throughout the EIS study. To ensure this, the Alamo RMA will periodically conduct presentations for these officials and the EIS team will provide support for this effort. It is anticipated that

briefings will occur prior to each public meeting, prior to the public hearing, and as needed throughout the project.

Presentations to local agencies and community groups

In addition to the four public meetings and one public hearing scheduled during the EIS study, the EIS team will utilize smaller, local venues for community engagement activities. Each interaction will be targeted as specifically as possible – meeting with neighborhood groups, civic associations, religious congregations, and various other community organizations. These smaller venues provide additional opportunities for meaningful exchange of information and opinion.

Outreach

EIS outreach materials will be vital for sharing information with the public during the EIS study. Outreach materials may include fact sheets, briefings, brochures/posters, newsletters, meeting summaries, and other materials that help convey information about the EIS study and its need and purpose. These materials will be developed and distributed at public meetings/hearing, through regular USPS mail, e-mail blasts, 4-1-1 on 281 website, and available at various corridor locations.

Project Mailing List

Anyone attending the public meetings/hearing, presentations to community groups, and all other interested individuals will be added to the US 281 EIS contact database. The EIS team will utilize this contact database to mail and e-mail EIS project information including newsletters and upcoming events.

Project Newsletters

Over the course of the study, the EIS team will prepare and distribute five newsletters, in both English and Spanish, to notify project stakeholders and the general public of study updates and events. The project newsletters will be distributed prior to, and also serve as notification for, each public meeting/hearing. The newsletter will be mailed out to all persons/businesses listed on the project mailing list, posted to the website, and distributed to all public agencies participating in the project.

Project Website

EIS-specific pages have been added to the existing US 281 web site at www.411on281.com. Over the course of the study, the EIS team will provide content updates and document uploads on these pages to provide an interactive and informative EIS web site for the community. This site will also provide dates, times and locations of public meetings/hearing and other engagements. These EIS pages will also contain EIS records and resources, questionnaires, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and provide an opportunity for the public to submit comments to be included in the US 281 EIS official record.

Social Media

Social media is a shift in how people discover, read, and share news and information. The EIS team will use social media sites to share factual EIS information and advertise public meetings/hearing and other EIS events. The following disclaimer is located on the www.411on281.com web site regarding the use of social media:

Disclaimer on usage of social media websites and tools

Comments made on these sites (Twitter, Facebook, Socializer, blogs), herein called “social media sites” will be not be included or evaluated as part of the ongoing Environmental Impact Statement decision-making process. Opinions expressed on these social media sites and any corresponding comments are the personal opinions of the original authors and do not represent the official opinion of the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, board members, staff or consultants working on this project. All official documents addressing the Environmental Impact Statement may be accessed through the principle website established for the study itself.

These social media sites are available for and intended to encourage public dialogue about the project and are, as such, provided for outreach and informational purposes only.

To provide official comments for inclusion into the project record for the Environmental Impact Statement *click here*. (This will link to the “EIS Comments” page on the 4-1-1 on 281 web site: www.411on281.com/us281eis/index.cfm/eis-comments/)

Public Opinion Questionnaires

The EIS team will collaborate with the Alamo RMA on one or more opinion questionnaires to gather data regarding project perceptions, travel behavior, need for improvements, and other information related to public and stakeholder opinions, interest and involvement. The EIS team will design the questions, manage the questionnaire process, analyze the results, and prepare written and visual summaries. The questionnaire and results will be housed on the EIS pages of the 4-1-1 on 281 web site.

Media Communications

Media inquiries regarding an interpretation of the Alamo RMA policies, Alamo RMA Board, lawsuits, personnel matters or seeking a quote or comments over the phone, by e-mail or through on-camera interviews, are the responsibilities designated to the Alamo RMA. The EIS team will therefore direct all media inquires to the Alamo RMA. The EIS team will only engage the media to advertise public meetings/hearing and other EIS-specific events.

Open Records

All Open Records Requests will be handled directly by the Alamo RMA. Requests submitted by the media to the Alamo RMA should be processed in accordance with the Texas State Attorney General's Public Information Act (<http://www.oag.state.tx.us/open/requestors.shtml>).

Initially Identified Stakeholders

* Invited member of Community Advisory Board

Public Agencies

- Alamo Area Council of Governments*
- Alamo Regional Mobility Authority *Joint Lead Agency*
- Bexar County
- Bexar Metropolitan Water District*
- City of Bulverde
- City of San Antonio
- City Public Service Energy*
- Comal County
- Comal Independent School District (ISD)
- Federal Highway Administration *Lead Agency*
- Federally-recognized Native American Tribes
- Northeast ISD*
- San Antonio – Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization
- San Antonio River Authority
- San Antonio Water System*
- State Historic Preservation Officer
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
- Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) *Joint Lead Agency*
 - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TP&WD)
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - U.S. Department of the Interior
 - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - VIA Metropolitan Transit*

Non-Governmental Organizations

- Alamo City Chamber of Commerce
- Alamo Sierra Club*

- Aquifer Guardians in Urban Areas (AGUA)*
- Big Springs Home Owners Association (HOA)*
- Bulverde Chamber of Commerce
- Bulverde United Methodist Church Daycare Center
- Cavalo Creek Estates HOA*
- Champion Springs/Sundance at Stone Oak HOA
- Champions Ridge/Stone Oak/Walker Ranch HOA
- Cibolo Canyons Resort Community, Inc*
- District 9 Neighborhood Alliance*
- Emerald Forest HOA*
- Encino Park HOA*
- Encino Ranch HOA*
- Forest at Stone Oak HOA
- Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance*
- HEB Grocery Company*
- Hospital within the US 281 EIS study area*
- Lookout Canyon HOA and Property Owners Association*
- Mesa Vista HOA*
- Methodist Stone Oak Hospital*
- Mountain Lodge HOA*
- North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce*
- Real Estate Council of San Antonio*
- San Antonio Christian Schools
- San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- San Antonio Toll Party*
- San Antonio Women's Chamber of Commerce
- Save Our Springs Alliance
- Sonterra Villas/Townhomes/Condos HOA
- Stone Mountain/Stone Oak HOA
- Stone Oak Business Owners Association*
- Stone Oak Communities of Mutual Amenities/Stone Oak
- Stone Oak Property Owners Association*
- Summerglen HOA*
- Texans Uniting for Reform and Freedom (TURF)*
- Timberwood Park HOA*

Elected and Appointed Officials

- Bexar County Commissioners Court
 - Judge Nelson Wolff
 - Precinct 1, Commissioner Sergio "Chico" Rodriguez
 - Precinct 2, Commissioner Paul Elizondo

- Precinct 3, Commissioner Kevin Wolff
- Precinct 4, Commissioner Tommy Adkisson
- City of Bulverde
 - Mayor Ray Jeffrey
 - Councilwoman Pamela Cole
 - Councilman Rob Hurst
 - Councilwoman Dannette Mitchell
 - Councilman Kirk Harrison
 - Councilman Shane Reynolds
- City of Hill Country Village
 - Mayor Kirk Francis
 - Place 1, (Mayor Pro-Tempore), Councilman Carl Register
 - Place 2, Councilman Gabriel Durand-Hollis
 - Place 3, Councilwoman Elizabeth Worley
 - Place 4, Councilman George “Rick” Evans
 - Place 5, Councilwoman Margaret Mayberry
- City of San Antonio
 - Mayor Julian Castro
 - District 1, Councilwoman Mary Cisneros
 - District 2, Councilwoman Ivy Taylor
 - District 3, Councilwoman Jennifer Ramos
 - District 4, Councilman Phillip Cortez
 - District 5, Councilman David Medina
 - District 6, Councilman Ray Lopez
 - District 7, Councilman Justin Rodriguez
 - District 8, Councilman W. Reed Williams
 - District 9, Councilwoman Elisa Chan
 - District 10, Councilman John Clamp
- Comal County Commissioners Court
 - Judge Danny Scheel
 - Precinct 1, Commissioner Donna Eccleston
 - Precinct 2, Commissioner Jay Milliken
 - Precinct 3, Commissioner Gregory Parker
 - Precinct 4, Commissioner Jan Kennady
- Texas House District 120, Representative Ruth Jones McClendon, Texas House Transportation Committee
- Texas House District 121, Representative Joe Straus, Speaker of the Texas House
- Texas House District 122, Representative Frank Corte, Jr., Chairman of the Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations Committee
- Texas State Senate District 25, Senator Jeff Wentworth, Senate Transportation and Homeland Secretary Member

- Town of Hollywood Park
 - Mayor Richard McIlveen
 - Place 1, Councilman Gary Miller
 - Place 2, Councilwoman Ellen Alkire
 - Place 3, Councilman Tim McCallum
 - Place 4, Councilman Steve Treu
 - Place 5, Councilman Bob Sartor
- US Congressman Lamar Smith, Texas, District 21
- US Senator John Cornyn, Texas
- US Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson, Texas

Individuals

- Business owners along the corridor
- Comal County resident representative*
- Corridor transportation users
- Property owners along the corridor

APPENDIX 3:

US 281 EIS Community Advisory Committee Charter



US 281 Environmental Impact Statement Community Advisory Committee CHARTER

I. Introduction

Established in 2004, the mission of the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) is to provide its customers with a rapid and reliable alternative for the safe and efficient movement of people, goods, and services in Bexar County. The goals of the Alamo RMA include:

- Provide a quality customer experience through education, communication and excellent service delivery.
- Utilize technology, innovation and entrepreneurial concepts to streamline processes, focus on results and complement efforts of other entities.
- Ensure the timely and efficient delivery of projects through sound management practices.
- Pursue an environmentally friendly transportation system.
- Collaborate, coordinate and communicate with other federal, state, regional and local entities in planning for regional transportation systems.
- Ensure financial accountability and stability.
- Develop and maintain an organization that efficiently and effectively accomplishes the Authority's mission.

The limits of the US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) extend from Loop 1604 to Borgfeld Road. The corridor is approximately 7.5 miles in length, and serves as a major connection for north and south traffic in north central Bexar County.

The US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), an Alamo RMA lead study in partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation Environmental Division and the Federal Highway Administration, intends to examine, give consideration to, and determine and recommend strategies for efficiently and effectively addressing mobility issues in the corridor. To ensure that community concerns are heard and considered, a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) has been formed. The CAC will advise the study team on the following aspects of the study process:

- Public involvement and communication activities with stakeholders and the

general public related to the development of the EIS.

- Development of the project's need and purpose.
- Identification of project alternatives.
- Identification of the Preferred Alternative.
- Consideration of potential social, economic and environmental impacts and mitigation measures.

The CAC is comprised of representatives of key stakeholder groups that live or work along the US 281 corridor. While not part of the required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the US 281 EIS, this advisory group has been established by the Alamo RMA to further ensure that potentially affected publics have ample opportunity for input and feedback. The Alamo RMA will consider all input and feedback contributed by the CAC and is committed to assisting the committee to successfully achieve its charge. However, the CAC will function only as an advisory group to the Alamo RMA and the EIS team and has no vested authority to approve or disapprove any aspect of the EIS at any time.

II. Charge

The CAC is intended to provide diverse representation of the communities and related interests potentially affected by US 281 transportation improvements. The CAC will facilitate the exchange of information, concerns and ideas among interest groups and the study team, providing feedback on the study process from a community perspective and reviewing study materials for clarity and effectiveness.

The charge of the Community Advisory Committee is to:

- Be a voice of the community related to the study process.
- Work together with design, transportation, and environmental professionals to provide input and feedback for the development of sustainable long-term mobility solutions that are sensitive to transportation, environmental and social needs.
- Create a genuine opportunity for exchange that encourages consensus among stakeholders along the US 281 corridor and the Alamo RMA.

III. Community Advisory Committee Organization

a. Establishing the Community Advisory Committee

Composition of the CAC includes a balanced cross-section of interests and areas within the US 281 corridor. These encompass:

- Business
- Civic

- Community
- Residents and neighborhood
- Environmental
- Corridor users

b. Membership Criteria

CAC members have been identified and selected using the following criteria:

- Each represents a distinct stakeholder group potentially affected by corridor transportation improvements.
- Each maintains flexibility and perspective and is willing to share, learn and seek common ground.
- Each is willing to and capable of making at least a 36-month commitment to attend CAC meetings and be actively involved and engaged in the study process.

IV. Roles and Responsibilities

a. Community Advisory Committee Members

As a condition of their membership, CAC members will have certain responsibilities, which include, but are not limited to the following:

- Serve as active links between the Alamo RMA and their respective communities and interests during the EIS process, advising and informing Alamo RMA staff of concerns raised by stakeholder groups.
- Serve as a sounding board for the alternatives analysis, assessment of potential impacts, and consideration of mitigation measures.
- Identify issues relating to the study.
- Attend CAC meetings and other scheduled meetings, fully participating in discussions, having reviewed the briefing materials provided prior to the meetings.
- Maintain regular and ongoing contact with their respective stakeholder organization.
- In the event a CAC member is unable to attend a meeting, he or she shall inform the facilitator or Alamo RMA Public Information Manager in advance. (After two consecutive absences without advance notice, the member's status will be reviewed by the nominating organization.)
- If a member is no longer able to serve, he or she can withdraw from the CAC by submitting a letter of resignation to the Alamo RMA.
- CAC members are encouraged to contact their facilitator between meetings with questions, ideas, concerns and information needs.

b. Facilitator

The facilitator is responsible for managing the group's agenda, keeping the CAC on task, ensuring that all members are heard, and encouraging members to identify and discuss issues. In addition, the facilitator will perform as noted below:

- The facilitator will work with the EIS team to coordinate presentations of technical data to the CAC members.
- The facilitator will be assisted by members of the EIS team as necessary for technical support.
- The facilitator will be responsible for the meeting process, but will not offer opinions on the substance of the study.
- The facilitator will prepare the agenda, coordinate the distribution of handouts and technical materials and distribute them prior to each CAC meeting.
- Between meetings, the facilitator will be available to answer, or direct to the appropriate person, any CAC member's questions. Such questions and answers will be distributed to all CAC members as deemed appropriate by the facilitator.

c. Alamo RMA

The Alamo RMA staff will oversee the logistics and coordination of the CAC. The Alamo RMA Community Relations staff will be directly responsible for the administrative aspects associated with each of the CAC meetings and all follow-up activities.

V. Meetings

a. Meeting Logistics

There will be no more than twelve (12) meetings of the CAC. The meetings will be held at a location that accommodates the materials to be presented and number of attendees, at dates and times to be determined.

b. Meeting Format

Meetings will be structured as “working sessions” to minimize formal presentations and maximize discussion time and individual participation. Members will have an opportunity to express their viewpoint in an orderly manner.

Participants in the CAC meetings will include the CAC members, the facilitator, and Alamo RMA support staff. To provide necessary technical information to the CAC, technical experts may be invited to present and participate in specific CAC meetings. Members of the EIS team will attend as resource persons.

c. Ground Rules

The purpose of having a set of ground rules is to make sure each member is able to participate in positive and meaningful dialogue. Ground rules include:

- Prepare in advance for and attend all meetings.
- Treat each member with courtesy and respect. Be positive and constructive.
- Agree or disagree with ideas, not with people.

281 Environmental Impact Statement Community Advisory Committee Charter

- Identify issues rather than taking “positions.”
- Listen and consider the opinions of others, continually seeking common ground.
- Be brief and clear in your comments avoiding repetition of what has already been said and focusing on the meeting objectives.
- Have an enjoyable/rewarding experience.
- Focus on providing thoughtful, well-meaning comments that represent the community’s interests and needs.
- Assist the facilitator in discouraging disruptive behavior.

Members who do not adhere to the charter will not be able to continue as a member of the CAC.

d. Discussion Log

The facilitator will be responsible for developing and maintaining a discussion log on issues considered by the CAC. This discussion log will summarize the issues addressed by the CAC related to the study.

e. Reporting

As part of the process, written summaries of all CAC meetings will be provided to CAC members after each meeting and posted on the website. These meeting summaries may be used by the CAC members to keep their stakeholder groups informed of the committee’s activities.

VI. Other

a. Media Relations

Any and all media requests and inquiries regarding the work of the Community Advisory Committee will be referred to the Alamo RMA's Community Relations staff, at 210.495.5256 or via email at US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org

b. Contact Persons

Linda Ximenes,
Lead Facilitator, US 281 EIS Community Advisory Committee
Ximenes & Associates
421 Sixth Street, #1
San Antonio, TX 78215
(210) 354-2925 (office)
210) 354-2964 (fax)
lximenes@swbell.net

Leroy Alloway
Director of Community Relations

**281 Environmental Impact Statement
Community Advisory Committee Charter**

Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N. Main Avenue, Ste 1000
San Antonio, Texas 78212
(210) 495-5256
(210) 495-5804 (Direct)
LAlloway@AlamoRMA.org

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA

*Having Your
Voice Heard*



DECEMBER 2007

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA

*Having Your
Voice Heard*



DECEMBER 2007

This guide is based on research and consultations undertaken by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) concerning the need for a Citizen's Guide to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Participants in the NEPA Regional Roundtables held in 2003-2004 clearly voiced the need for an guide that provides an explanation of NEPA, how it is implemented, and how people outside the Federal government — individual citizens, private sector applicants, members of organized groups, or representatives of Tribal, State, or local government agencies — can better participate in the assessment of environmental impacts conducted by Federal agencies (see <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/ntf>). This guide is informational and does not establish new requirements. It is not and should not be viewed as constituting formal CEQ guidance on the implementation of NEPA, nor are recommendations in this guide intended to be viewed as legally binding.

Table of Contents

Purpose of the Guide	1
History and Purpose of NEPA	2
Who is Responsible for Implementing NEPA?.....	2
To What do the Procedural Requirements of NEPA Apply?.....	4
When Does NEPA Apply?.....	5
Who Oversees the NEPA Process?	5
Navigating the NEPA Process	7
Implementing the NEPA Process	10
Categorical Exclusions (CE)	10
Environmental Assessments (EA).....	11
Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).....	13
Notice of Intent and Scoping	13
Draft EIS	16
Final EIS.....	18
Record of Decision (ROD)	19
Supplemental EIS.....	20
EPA's Review	21
When and How to Get Involved.....	21
It Depends on the Agency	21
Be Informed of Actions.....	23
Active Involvement	23
Other Processes that Require Public Involvement	25
How to Comment.....	27
What If Involvement Isn't Going Well?	28
Don't Wait Too Long.....	28
Contact the Agency	28

Other Assistance.....	29
NEPA's Requirements	29
Remedies Available.....	30
Final Thoughts	30

List of Appendices

Appendix A: NEPAnet and How to Use It

Appendix B: The Federal Register and How to Use It

Appendix C: EPA's EIS Rating System

Appendix D: Agency NEPA Contacts

Appendix E: Some Useful Definitions from the Council on
Environmental Quality NEPA Implementing
Regulations

List of Acronyms

CE:	Categorical Exclusion
CEQ:	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR:	Code of Federal Regulations
EA:	Environmental Assessment
EIS:	Environmental Impact Statement
EMS:	Environmental Management System
EPA:	The Environmental Protection Agency
FONSI:	Finding of No Significant Impact
NEPA:	The National Environmental Policy Act
NOI:	Notice of Intent
ROD:	Record of Decision

Purpose of the Guide

This guide has been developed to help citizens and organizations who are concerned about the environmental effects of federal decisionmaking to effectively participate in Federal agencies' environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).¹ With some limited exceptions, all Federal agencies in the executive branch have to comply with NEPA before they make final decisions about federal actions that could have environmental effects. Thus, NEPA applies to a very wide range of federal actions that include, but are not limited to, federal construction projects, plans to manage and develop federally owned lands, and federal approvals of non-federal activities such as grants, licenses, and permits. The Federal Government takes hundreds of actions every day that are, in some way, covered by NEPA.

The environmental review process under NEPA provides an opportunity for you to be involved in the Federal agency decisionmaking process. It will help you understand what the Federal agency is proposing, to offer your thoughts on alternative ways for the agency to accomplish what it is proposing, and to offer your comments on the agency's analysis of the environmental effects of the proposed action and possible mitigation of potential harmful effects of such actions. NEPA requires Federal agencies to consider environmental effects that include, among others, impacts on social, cultural, and economic resources, as well as natural resources. Citizens often have valuable information about places and resources that they value and the potential environmental, social, and economic effects that proposed federal actions may have on those places and resources. NEPA's requirements provide you the means to work with the agencies so they can take your information into account.

¹ National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4347, available at www.nepa.gov.

History and Purpose of NEPA

Congress enacted NEPA in December, 1969, and President Nixon signed it into law on January 1, 1970. NEPA was the first major environmental law in the United States and is often called the “Magna Carta” of environmental laws. Importantly, NEPA established this country’s national environmental policies.

To implement these policies, NEPA requires agencies to undertake an assessment of the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions. Two major purposes of the environmental review process are better informed decisions and citizen involvement, both of which should lead to implementation of NEPA’s policies.

Who is Responsible for Implementing NEPA?

Every agency in the executive branch of the Federal Government has a responsibility to implement NEPA. In NEPA, Congress directed that, to the fullest extent possible, the policies, regulations, and public laws of the United States shall be interpreted and administered in accordance with the policies set forth in NEPA.² To implement NEPA’s policies, Congress prescribed a procedure, commonly referred to as “the NEPA process” or “the environmental impact assessment process.”

NEPA’s procedural requirements apply to all Federal agencies in the executive branch. NEPA does not apply to the President, to Congress, or to the Federal courts.³

Because NEPA implementation is an important responsibility of the Federal Government, many Federal agencies have established offices dedicated to NEPA policy and program oversight. Employees in these offices prepare NEPA guidance, policy, and procedures for the agency, and often make this information available to the public through sources such as Internet websites. Agencies are required to develop their own capacity within a NEPA program in order to develop analyses and documents (or review those prepared by others) to ensure informed decisionmaking.⁴ Most agency NEPA procedures are available on-line at the NEPANet website <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs/agency/agencies.cfm>). Agency NEPA procedures are published in

² Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. §4332.

³ CEQ NEPA Regulations 40 C.F.R. §1508.12.

⁴ Council on Environmental Quality, “Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act” 40 C.F.R. section 1507.2, available at www.nepa.gov. Future references to the CEQ NEPA Regulations will be cited as : CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. §1507.2.

National Environmental Policy Act Sec. 101
[42 USC § 4331]

(a) The Congress, recognizing the profound impact of man's activity on the interrelations of all components of the natural environment, particularly the profound influences of population growth, high-density urbanization, industrial expansion, resource exploitation, and new and expanding technological advances and recognizing further the critical importance of restoring and maintaining environmental quality to the overall welfare and development of man, declares that it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations, to use all practicable means and measures, including financial and technical assistance, in a manner calculated to foster and promote the general welfare, to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans.

(b) In order to carry out the policy set forth in this Act, it is the continuing responsibility of the Federal Government to use all practicable means, consistent with other essential considerations of national policy, to improve and coordinate Federal plans, functions, programs, and resources to the end that the Nation may —

1. fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
2. assure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
3. attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
4. preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity, and variety of individual choice;
5. achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and
6. enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

(c) The Congress recognizes that each person should enjoy a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the environment.

the Federal Register for public review and comment when first proposed and some are later codified and published in the Code of Federal Regulations.⁵ If you experience difficulty locating an agency's NEPA procedures, you can write or call the agency NEPA point of contacts and ask for a copy of their procedures.⁶

To What Do the Procedural Requirements of NEPA Apply?

In NEPA, Congress recognized that the Federal Government's actions may cause significant environmental effects. The range of actions that cause significant environmental effects is broad and includes issuing regulations, providing permits for private actions, funding private actions, making federal land management decisions, constructing publicly-owned facilities, and many other types of actions. Using the NEPA process, agencies are required to determine if their proposed actions have significant environmental effects and to consider the environmental and related social and economic effects of their proposed actions.

NEPA's procedural requirements apply to a Federal agency's decisions for actions, including financing, assisting, conducting, or approving projects or programs; agency rules, regulations, plans, policies, or procedures; and legislative proposals.⁷ NEPA applies when a Federal agency has discretion to choose among one or more alternative means of accomplishing a particular goal.⁸

Frequently, private individuals or companies will become involved in the NEPA process when they need a permit issued by a Federal agency. When a company applies for a permit (for example, for crossing federal lands or impacting waters of the United States) the agency that is being asked to issue the permit must evaluate the environmental effects of the permit decision under NEPA. Federal agencies might require the private company or developer to pay for the preparation of analyses, but the agency remains responsible for the scope and accuracy of the analysis.

⁵ The draft agency implementing procedures, or regulations, are published in the Federal Register, and a public comment period is required prior to CEQ approval. Commenting on these agency regulations is one way to be involved in their development. Most agencies already have implementing procedures; however, when they are changed, the agency will again provide for public comment on the proposed changes.

⁶ See Appendices A and D for information on how to access agency points of contact and agency websites.

⁷ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1508.18. Note that this section applies only to legislation drafted and submitted to Congress by federal agencies. NEPA does not apply to legislation initiated by members of Congress.

⁸ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1508.23.

When Does NEPA Apply?

NEPA requires agency decisionmakers to make informed decisions. Therefore, the NEPA process must be completed before an agency makes a final decision on a proposed action. Good NEPA analyses should include a consideration of how NEPA's policy goals (Section 101) will be incorporated into the decision to the extent consistent with other considerations of national policy. NEPA does not require the decisionmaker to select the environmentally preferable alternative or prohibit adverse environmental effects. Indeed, decisionmakers in Federal agencies often have other concerns and policy considerations to take into account in the decisionmaking process, such as social, economic, technical or national security interests. But NEPA does require that decisionmakers be informed of the environmental consequences of their decisions.

The NEPA process can also serve to meet other environmental review requirements. For instance, actions that require the NEPA process may have an impact on endangered species, historic properties, or low income communities. The NEPA analysis, which takes into account the potential impacts of the proposed action and investigates alternative actions, may also serve as a framework to meet other environmental review requirements, such as the Endangered Species Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Environmental Justice Executive Order, and other Federal, State, Tribal, and local laws and regulations.⁹

Who Oversees the NEPA Process?

There are three Federal agencies that have particular responsibilities for NEPA. Primary responsibility is vested in the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), established by Congress in NEPA. Congress placed CEQ in the Executive Office of the President and gave it many responsibilities, including the responsibility to ensure that Federal agencies meet their obligations under the Act. CEQ oversees implementation of NEPA, principally through issuance and interpretation of NEPA regulations that implement the procedural requirements of NEPA. CEQ also reviews and approves Federal agency NEPA procedures, approves of alternative arrangements for compliance with NEPA in the case of emergencies, and helps to resolve disputes between Federal agencies and with other governmental entities and members of the public.

⁹ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.25.

In 1978, CEQ issued binding regulations directing agencies on the fundamental requirements necessary to fulfill their NEPA obligations.¹⁰ The CEQ regulations set forth minimum requirements for agencies. The CEQ regulations also called for agencies to create their own implementing procedures that supplement the minimum requirements based on each agency's specific mandates, obligations, and missions.¹¹ These agency-specific NEPA procedures account for the slight differences in agencies' NEPA processes.

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Federal Activities reviews environmental impact statements (EIS) and some environmental assessments (EA) issued by Federal agencies.¹² It provides its comments to the public by publishing summaries of them in the Federal Register, a daily publication that provides notice of Federal agency actions.¹³ EPA's reviews are intended to assist Federal agencies in improving their NEPA analyses and decisions.¹⁴

Another government entity involved in NEPA is the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, which was established by the Environmental Policy and Conflict Resolution Act of 1998 to assist in resolving conflict over environmental issues that involve Federal agencies.¹⁵ While part of the Federal Government (it is located within the Morris K. Udall Foundation, a Federal agency located in Tucson, Arizona), it provides an independent, neutral, place for Federal agencies to work with citizens as well as State, local, and Tribal governments, private organizations, and businesses to reach common ground. The Institute provides dispute resolution alternatives to litigation and other adversarial approaches. The Institute is also charged with assisting the Federal Government in the implementation of the substantive policies set forth in Section 101 of NEPA.¹⁶

¹⁰ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. parts 1500-1508, available at www.nepa.gov.

¹¹ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1507.3.

¹² Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7609.

¹³ See Appendix B for information on the Federal Register.

¹⁴ For additional information see <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/index.htm>.

¹⁵ Environmental Policy and Conflict Resolution Act of 1998, 20 U.S.C. §§ 5601-5609.

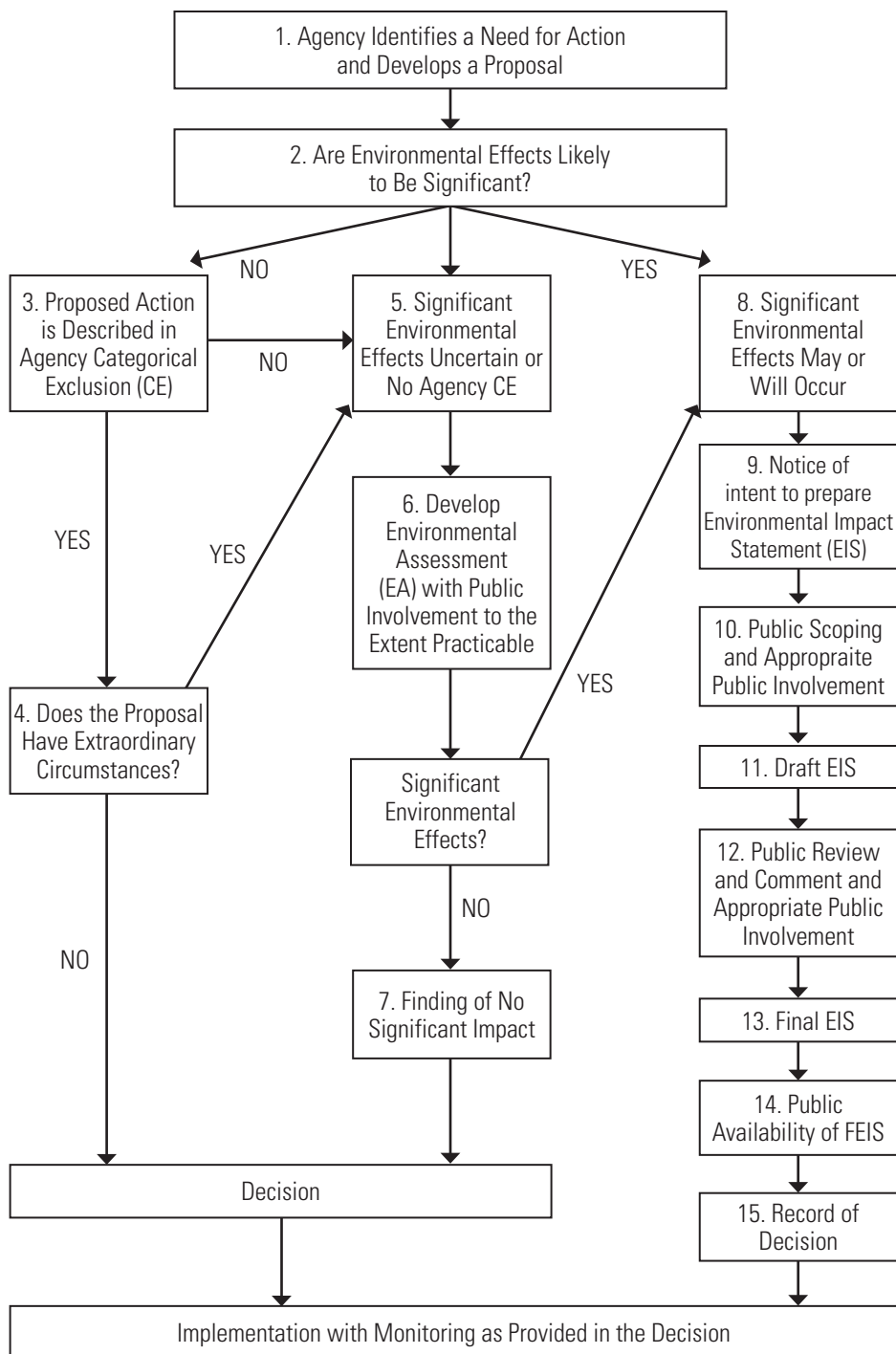
¹⁶ For a discussion of the relationship between Section 101 of NEPA and conflict resolution, including specific case examples and recommendations for strengthening that relationship see the National Environmental Conflict Resolution Advisory Committee, "Final Report — Submitted to the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution of the Morris K. Udall Foundation," (April 2005), available at <http://www.ecr.gov> by clicking on "Resources" and "NEPA and ECR."

Navigating the NEPA Process

Each year, thousands of Environmental Assessments (EAs) and hundreds of Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) are prepared by Federal agencies. These documents provide citizens and communities an opportunity to learn about and be involved in each of those environmental impact assessments that are part of the Federal agency decisionmaking process. It is important to understand that commenting on a proposal is not a “vote” on whether the proposed action should take place. Nonetheless, the information you provide during the EA and EIS process can influence the decisionmakers and their final decisions because NEPA does require that federal decisionmakers be informed of the environmental consequences of their decisions.

This guide will help you better navigate through the NEPA process and better understand the roles of the various other actors. While reading the guide, please refer to the following flowchart, “The NEPA Process,” which details the steps of the NEPA process. For ease of reference, each step of the process is designated with a number which is highlighted in the text discussing that particular step. While agencies may differ slightly in how they comply with NEPA, understanding the basics will give you the information you need to work effectively with any agency’s process.

The NEPA Process



**Significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns or substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns may necessitate preparation of a supplemental EIS following either the draft or final EIS or the Record of Decision (CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c)).*

The NEPA process begins when an agency develops a proposal to address a need to take an action.

The need to take an action may be something the agency identifies itself, or it may be a need to make a decision on a proposal brought to it by someone outside of the agency, for example, an applicant for a permit. Based on the need, the agency develops a proposal for action (Number 1 in Figure 1). If it is the only Federal agency involved, that agency will automatically be the “lead agency,” which means it has the primary responsibility for compliance with NEPA.

Some large or complex proposals involve multiple Federal agencies along with State, local, and Tribal agencies. If another Federal, State, local, or Tribal agency has a major role in the proposed action and also has NEPA responsibilities or responsibilities under a similar NEPA-like law¹⁷, that agency may be a “joint lead agency.” A “joint lead agency” shares the lead agency’s responsibility for management of the NEPA process, including public involvement and the preparation of documents. Other Federal, State, Tribal, or local government agencies may have a decision or special expertise regarding a proposed action, but less of a role than the lead agency. In that case, such a Federal, State, Tribal, or local government agency may be a “cooperating agency.”

A “cooperating agency” is an agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative). Thus, a “cooperating agency” typically will have some responsibilities for the analysis related to its jurisdiction or special expertise.

Once it has developed a proposed action, the agency will enter the initial analytical approach (Number 2 in Figure 1) to help it determine whether the agency will pursue the path of a Categorical Exclusion (CE), an Environmental Assessment (EA), or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

¹⁷ About a quarter of the states have such laws; for example, New York, Montana, Washington, and California all have such laws. New York City also has such a law. A list with references is available at [www.nepa.gov](http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/states.html) by clicking on “State Information” or directly at <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/states.html>.

Special Situations

- ❖ On rare occasions, Congress may exempt an action from NEPA.
- ❖ If the agency needs to take an action that would typically require preparation of an environmental impact statement in response to an emergency, and there is insufficient time to follow the regular NEPA process, then the agency can proceed immediately to mitigate harm to life, property, or important resources, and work with CEQ to develop alternative arrangements for compliance with NEPA (40 C.F.R. §1506.11).
- ❖ The NEPA analyses and document may involve classified information. If the entire action is classified, the agency will still comply with the analytical requirements of NEPA, but the information will not be released for public review. If only a portion of the information is classified, the agency will organize the classified material so that the unclassified portions can be made available for review (40 C.F.R. §1507.3(c)).

Implementing the NEPA Process

Categorical Exclusions (CEs) (Number 3 in Figure 1)

A CE is a category of actions that the agency has determined does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.¹⁸ Examples include issuing administrative personnel procedures, making minor facility renovations (such as installing energy efficient lighting), and reconstruction of hiking trails on public lands. Agencies develop a list of CEs specific to their operations when they develop or revise their NEPA implementing procedures in accordance with CEQ's NEPA regulations.

A CE is based on an agency's experience with a particular kind of action and its environmental effects. The agency may have studied the action in previous EAs, found no significant impact on the environment based on the analyses, and validated the lack of significant impacts after the implementation. If this is the type of action that will be repeated over time, the agency may decide to amend their implementing regulations to include the action as a CE. In these cases, the draft agency procedures are published in the *Federal Register*, and a public comment period is required. Participation in these comment periods is an important way to be involved in the development of a particular CE.

¹⁸ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1508.4.

If a proposed action is included in the description provided for a listed CE established by the agency, the agency must check to make sure that no extraordinary circumstances exist that may cause the proposed action to have a significant effect in a particular situation. Extraordinary circumstances typically include such matters as effects to endangered species, protected cultural sites, and wetlands (Number 4 in Figure 1). If there are no extraordinary circumstances indicating that the effects of the action may be significant, then the agency can proceed with the action.

If the proposed action is not included in the description provided in the CE established by the agency, or there are extraordinary circumstances, the agency must prepare an EA or an EIS, or develop a new proposal that may qualify for application of a CE. When the agency does not know or is uncertain whether significant impacts are expected, the agency should prepare an EA to determine if there are significant environmental effects.

Environmental Assessments (EA) (Number 5 in Figure 1)

The purpose of an EA is to determine the significance of the environmental effects and to look at alternative means to achieve the agency's objectives. The EA is intended to be a concise document that (1) briefly provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an EIS; (2) aids an agency's compliance with NEPA when no environmental impact statement is necessary; and (3) facilitates preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement when one is necessary.¹⁹

An EA should include brief discussions of:

- ❖ the need for the proposal,
- ❖ alternative courses of action for any proposal which involves unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources,
- ❖ the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, and
- ❖ a listing of agencies and persons consulted.²⁰

¹⁹ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1508.9.

²⁰ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1508.9(b).

Because the EA serves to evaluate the significance of a proposal for agency actions, it should focus on the context and intensity of effects that may “significantly” affect the quality of the human environment.²¹ Often the EA will identify ways in which the agency can revise the action to minimize environmental effects.

When preparing an EA, the agency has discretion as to the level of public involvement (Number 6 in Figure 1). The CEQ regulations state that the agency shall involve environmental agencies, applicants, and the public, to the extent practicable, in preparing EAs.²² Sometimes agencies will choose to mirror the scoping and public comment periods that are found in the EIS process. In other situations, agencies make the EA and a draft FONSI available to interested members of the public.

Some agencies, such as the Army, require that interested parties be notified of the decision to prepare an EA, and the Army also makes the EA publicly available. Some agencies keep a notification list of parties interested in a particular kind of action or in all agency actions. Other agencies simply prepare the EA. Not all agencies systematically provide information about individual EAs, so it is important that you read the specific implementing procedures of the proposing agency or ask the local NEPA point of contact working on the project about the process and let the appropriate agency representative know if you are interested in being notified of all NEPA documents or NEPA processes related to a particular type of action.

The EA process concludes with either a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) (Number 7 in Figure 1) or a determination to proceed to preparation of an EIS. A FONSI is a document that presents the reasons why the agency has concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts projected to occur upon implementation of the action.²³ The EA is either summarized in the FONSI or attached to it.

In two circumstances, the CEQ regulations require agencies to make the proposed FONSI available for public review for 30 days. Those situations are:

- ❖ if the type of proposed action hasn’t been done before by the particular agency, or

²¹ CEQ NEPA Regulations 40 C.F.R. § 1508.27.

²² CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1501.4(e)(2).

²³ Government Printing Office Electronic Information Enhancement Act of 1993, 44 U.S.C. §§ 4101-4104.

-
- ❖ if the action is something that typically would require an EIS under the agency NEPA procedures.²⁴

If this is the case, the FONSI is usually published in the *Federal Register*,²⁵ and the notice of availability of the FONSI will include information on how and where to provide your comments. If the requirement for a 30 day review is not triggered the FONSI often will not be published in the Federal Register. It may be posted on the agency's website, published in local newspapers or made available in some other manner. If you are interested in a particular action that is the subject of an EA, you should find out from the agency how it will make the FONSI available.

Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) (Number 8 in Figure 1)

A Federal agency must prepare an EIS if it is proposing a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.²⁶ The regulatory requirements for an EIS are more detailed than the requirements for an EA or a categorical exclusion and are explained below.

Notice of Intent and Scoping (Numbers 9 and 10 in Figure 1)

The EIS process begins with publication of a Notice of Intent (NOI), stating the agency's intent to prepare an EIS for a particular proposal. (Number 9 in Figure 1). The NOI is published in the Federal Register, and provides some basic information on the proposed action in preparation for the scoping process (Number 10 in Figure 1).²⁷ The NOI provides a brief description of the proposed action and possible alternatives. It also describes the agency's proposed scoping process, including any meetings and how the public can get involved. The NOI will also contain an agency point of contact who can answer questions about the proposed action and the NEPA process.

The scoping process is the best time to identify issues, determine points of contact, establish project schedules, and provide recommendations to the agency. The overall goal is to define the scope of issues to be addressed in depth in the analyses that will be included in the EIS. Specifically, the scoping process will:

²⁴ 42 U.S.C. § 4332(C).

²⁵ Scoping is a NEPA term of art that describes one major public involvement aspect of the NEPA EIS process (CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1501.7).

²⁶ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1501.7. More information on scoping can be found in CEQ's guidance on scoping at www.nepa.gov.

²⁷ Public hearings are run in a formal manner, with a recording or minutes taken of speakers' comments. Public meetings may be held in a variety of formats, and may be much more informal than hearings.

-
- ❖ Identify people or organizations who are interested in the proposed action;
 - ❖ Identify the significant issues to be analyzed in the EIS;
 - ❖ Identify and eliminate from detailed review those issues that will not be significant or those that have been adequately covered in prior environmental review;
 - ❖ Determine the roles and responsibilities of lead and cooperating agencies;
 - ❖ Identify any related EAs or EISs;
 - ❖ Identify gaps in data and informational needs;
 - ❖ Set time limits for the process and page limits for the EIS;
 - ❖ Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements so they can be integrated with the EIS; and
 - ❖ Indicate the relationship between the development of the environmental analysis and the agency's tentative decisionmaking schedule.²⁸

As part of the process, agencies are required to identify and invite the participation of interested persons. The agency should choose whatever communications methods are best for effective involvement of communities, whether local, regional, or national, that are interested in the proposed action. Video conferencing, public meetings, conference calls, formal hearings, or informal workshops are among the legitimate ways to conduct scoping. It is in your interest to become involved as soon as the EIS process begins and to use the scoping opportunity to make thoughtful, rational presentations on impacts and alternatives. Some of the most constructive and beneficial interaction between the public and an agency occurs when citizens identify or develop reasonable alternatives that the agency can evaluate in the EIS.

²⁸ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1501.7. More information on scoping can be found in CEQ's guidance on scoping at www.nepa.gov by clicking on "CEQ Guidance."

NEPA is About People and Places



Tent Rocks, Jemez Mountains.

Southern Regional
NEPA Roundtable
discussion on the
NEPA Task Force
report *Modernizing
NEPA Implementation*



US District
Courthouse, Sioux
Falls, SD

From top left: Tent Rocks photo courtesy of Michael Dechter; Courthouse, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, photo courtesy of General Services Administration, <http://rmrpbs.gsa.gov/internet/PBSWeb.nsf/0/a704c21a7427f8d4872569b50079ac3d?OpenDocument>

Draft EIS (Number 11 in Figure 1)

The next major step in the EIS process that provides an opportunity for your input is when the agencies submit a draft EIS for public comment. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register informing you and other members of the public that the draft is available for comment (Number 12 in Figure 1). The EPA notices are also available at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/eisdata.html>. Based on the communication plan established by the agency, websites, local papers, or other means of public notice may also be used. The comment period is at least 45 days long; however, it may be longer based on requirements spelled out in the agency specific NEPA procedures or at the agency's discretion. During this time, the agency may conduct public meetings or hearings as a way to solicit comments.²⁹ The agency will also request comments from other Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies that may have jurisdiction or interest in the matter.

One key aspect of a draft EIS is the statement of the underlying purpose and need.³⁰ Agencies draft a "Purpose and Need" statement to describe what they are trying to achieve by proposing an action. The purpose and need statement explains to the reader why an agency action is necessary, and serves as the basis for identifying the reasonable alternatives that meet the purpose and need.

The identification and evaluation of alternative ways of meeting the purpose and need of the proposed action is the heart of the NEPA analysis. The lead agency or agencies must, "objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives, and for alternatives which were eliminated from detailed study, briefly discuss the reasons for their having been eliminated."³¹ Reasonable alternatives are those that substantially meet the agency's purpose and need. If the agency is considering an application for a permit or other federal approval, the agency must still consider all reasonable alternatives. Reasonable alternatives include those that are practical or feasible from the technical and economic standpoint and using common sense, rather than simply desirable from the standpoint of the applicant. Agencies are obligated to evaluate all reasonable alternatives or a range of reasonable alternatives in enough detail so that a reader can compare and contrast the environmental effects of the various alternatives.

²⁹ Public hearings are run in a formal manner, with a recording or minutes taken of speakers' comments. Public meetings may be held in a variety of formats, and may be much more informal than hearings.

³⁰ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.13.

³¹ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.14.

Agencies must always describe and analyze a “no action alternative.” The “no action” alternative is simply what would happen if the agency did not act upon the proposal for agency action. For example, in the case of an application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a permit to place fill in a particular area, the “no action” alternative is no permit. But in the case of a proposed new management plan for the National Park Service’s management of a national park, the “no action” alternative is the continuation of the current management plan.

If an agency has a preferred alternative when it publishes a draft EIS, the draft must identify which alternative the agency prefers. All agencies must identify a preferred alternative in the final EIS, unless another law prohibits it from doing so.³²

The agency must analyze the full range of direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the preferred alternative, if any, and of the reasonable alternatives identified in the draft EIS. For purposes of NEPA, “effects” and “impacts” mean the same thing. They include ecological, aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health impacts, whether adverse or beneficial.³³ It is important to note that human beings are part of the environment (indeed, that’s why Congress used the phrase “human environment” in NEPA), so when an EIS is prepared and economic or social and natural or physical environmental effects are interrelated, the EIS should discuss all of these effects.³⁴

CEQ NEPA Regulation Section 1508.8
[40 C.F.R. § 1508.8.]

“Effects” include:

(a) Direct effects, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place.

(b) Indirect effects, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects may include growth inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density or growth rate, and related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems.

Effects and impacts as used in these regulations are synonymous. Effects includes ecological (such as the effects on natural resources and on the components, structures, and functioning of affected ecosystems), aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative. Effects may also include those resulting from actions which may have both beneficial and detrimental effects, even if on balance the agency believes that the effect will be beneficial.

³² CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.14(e).

³³ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. §§ 1508.7, 1508.8.

³⁴ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1508.14.

In addition to the purpose and need, identification of reasonable alternatives, and the environmental effects of the alternatives, the draft EIS will contain a description of the environment that would be affected by the various alternatives.

The EIS will also have a list of who prepared the document and their qualifications,³⁵ a table of contents, and an index.³⁶ The agency may choose to include technical information in appendices that are either circulated with the draft or readily available for review.³⁷

Final EIS (Number 13 in Figure 1)

When the public comment period is finished, the agency analyzes comments, conducts further analysis as necessary, and prepares the final EIS. In the final EIS, the agency must respond to the substantive comments received from other government agencies and from you and other members of the public.³⁸ The response can be in the form of changes in the final EIS, factual corrections, modifications to the analyses or the alternatives, new alternatives considered, or an explanation of why a comment does not require the agency's response.³⁹ Often the agency will meet with other agencies that may be affected by the proposed action in an effort to resolve an issue or mitigate project effects. A copy or a summary of your substantive comments and the response to them will be included in the final EIS.⁴⁰

When it is ready, the agency will publish the final EIS and EPA will publish a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. The Notice of Availability marks the start of a waiting period (Number 14 in Figure 1). A minimum of 30 days must pass before the agency can make a decision on their proposed action unless the agency couples the 30 days with a formal internal appeals process.⁴¹ This provides time for the agency decisionmaker to consider the purpose and need, weigh the alternatives, balance their objectives, and make a decision.

There is an additional (but rarely used) procedure worth noting: pre-decision referrals to CEQ.⁴² This referral process takes place when

³⁵ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.17.

³⁶ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.10.

³⁷ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.18.

³⁸ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1503.4.

³⁹ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1503.4(a).

⁴⁰ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1503.4(b).

⁴¹ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1506.10. If the end of the 30 day wait period is less than 90 days after the notice of availability of the Draft EIS, was published in the Federal Register, then the decision must await the expiration of the 90 days.

⁴² CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. part 1504.

EPA or another Federal agency determines that proceeding with the proposed action is environmentally unacceptable. If an agency reaches that conclusion, the agency can refer the issue to CEQ within 25 days after the Notice of Availability for the final EIS is issued. CEQ then works to resolve the issue with the agencies concerned. CEQ might also refer the agencies to the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution to try to address the matter before formal elevation.⁴³ There is no provision for citizens to formally refer an action to CEQ; however, CEQ typically provides an opportunity for public involvement in a referral.

Record of Decision (ROD) (Number 15 in Figure 1)

The ROD is the final step for agencies in the EIS process. The ROD is a document that states what the decision is; identifies the alternatives considered, including the environmentally preferred alternative; and discusses mitigation plans, including any enforcement and monitoring commitments.⁴⁴ In the ROD, the agency discusses all the factors, including any considerations of national policy, that were contemplated when it reached its decision on whether to, and if so how to, proceed with the proposed action. The ROD will also discuss if all practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm have been adopted, and if not, why they were not.⁴⁵ The ROD is a publicly available document. Sometimes RODs are published in the Federal Register or on the agency's website, but if you are interested in receiving the ROD you should ask the agency's point of contact for the EIS how to obtain a copy of the ROD.

⁴³ The U.S. Institute reports disputes it is involved with to CEQ and requests concurrence from CEQ to engage in those disputes involving two or more federal agencies.

⁴⁴ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1505.2.

⁴⁵ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1505.2(c).

Environmental Management Systems (EMS)

Executive Order (EO 13423) and a subsequent memorandum issued from the Office of Management and Budget and CEQ direct all agencies to adopt an Environmental Management System (EMS). “An EMS is a systematic approach to identifying and managing an organization’s environmental obligations and issues that can complement many aspects of the NEPA review process.” (Boling, E.A. 2005. Environmental Management Systems and NEPA: A Framework for Productive Harmony. The Environmental Law Reporter. 35 ELR 10022. Environmental Law Institute). EMSs are typically used by organizations and agencies to set up the procedures that will help them comply with the specific requirements of environmental laws and regulations, such as air and water permits. EMSs can be particularly useful in NEPA in the context of post-decision monitoring and mitigation. Using the procedures provided by an EMS, agencies can better ensure they are proper implementation of mitigation measures and provide a mechanism for monitoring the actual effects of the mitigation. (CEQ, Aligning National Environmental Policy Act Processes with Environmental Management Systems — A Guide for NEPA and EMS Practitioners (April 2007) available at www.nepa.gov by clicking on “Aligning NEPA Processes with Environmental Management Systems.”)

Supplemental EIS (Asterisk in Figure 1)

Sometimes a Federal agency is obligated to prepare a supplement to an existing EIS. An agency must prepare a supplement to either a draft or final EIS if it makes substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns, or if there are significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts. An agency may also prepare a supplemental EIS if it determines that doing so will further the purposes of NEPA.⁴⁶ A supplemental EIS is prepared in the same way as a draft or final EIS, except that scoping is not required. If a supplement is prepared following a draft EIS, the final EIS will address both the draft EIS and supplemental EIS.

⁴⁶ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c).

EPA's Review

EPA plays a critical role in other agencies' NEPA processes. EPA is required to review and provide comments on the adequacy of the analysis and the impact to the environment.⁴⁷ EPA uses a rating system that summarizes its recommendations to the lead agency (see Appendix C). If EPA determines that the action is environmentally unsatisfactory, it is required by law to refer the matter to CEQ.

The Office of Federal Activities in EPA is the official recipient of all EISs prepared by Federal agencies, and publishes the notices of availability in the Federal Register for all draft, final, and supplemental EISs. The publication of these notices start the official clock for public review and comment periods and wait periods.⁴⁸ In addition to the Federal Register, the notices and summaries of the EPA comments are available at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/eisdata.html>.

When and How to Get Involved

It Depends on the Agency

To determine the specific steps in the process where public involvement will be the most effective, it is very important to review the agency's NEPA implementing procedures. As previously mentioned, NEPA processes differ among agencies. For example, the Federal Highway Administration provides a 30 day comment period (with or without a public meeting) on all EAs that they develop before a FONSI is issued while some other agencies have no required comment periods for EAs.⁴⁹

In addition, new legislation can change the way NEPA is implemented in agencies. For example, after the passage of the "Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act", which is transportation legislation that Congress passed in August 2005, the Department of Transportation updated its NEPA processes to implement the new transportation legislation. The Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration have kept websites up to date and are tracking the evolving guidance at <http://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/strmlng/index.asp> by clicking on "SAFETEA-LU."

⁴⁷ Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7609.

⁴⁸ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 1506.10.

⁴⁹ Federal Highway Administration NEPA Regulations, 23 C.F.R. § 771.119 (2005).

**Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient
Transportation Equity Act:
A Legacy for Users
(SAFETEA-LU), Public Law 109-59**

Congress included some modifications to the regular NEPA process for proposed actions that require preparation of EISs in SAFETEA-LU. For example, SAFETEA-LU requires the lead agency to provide an opportunity as early as practicable during the environmental review process for the public to weigh in on both defining the purpose and need for a proposal and determining the range of alternatives to be considered. Congress provided for a process whereby some states could assume responsibilities for all environmental compliance, including NEPA. Congress also established a 180 day statute of limitations for lawsuits challenging agency approvals of projects.

If you are involved or anticipate becoming involved in the NEPA process for a proposed highway or federal mass transit proposal, you should become familiar with the specific requirements of SAFETEA-LU for the NEPA process. One good way to do this is check information on the Federal Highway Administration's website at www.fhwa.dot.gov/safetealu. By clicking on "Cross Reference" you will find both the requirements of the law and FHWA regulations and implementing guidance.

You should also be aware that in the context of highway planning, much work is done at a pre-NEPA stage through statewide, municipal, and rural planning processes. These processes often set the stage for the NEPA process and you should be aware of your opportunities to get involved at that earlier stage. You can learn more about these processes by going to the Federal Highway Administration's website listed above, or by obtaining a copy of "A Citizen's Guide to Transportation Decisionmaking", available at www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/citizen/index.htm or by writing to the Federal Highway Administration at 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., HEPP-20, Washington, D.C. 20590, Attention: Transportation Planning Capacity Building Team; or calling 202 366-0106. Another publication that may be of assistance is "The Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process: Key Issues. A Briefing Notebook for Transportation Decisionmakers, Officials, and Staff." That publication is being updated to reflect the changes in the SAFETEA-LU law, and should be available through the same website and addresses above.

Be Informed of Actions

Sometimes citizens are generally interested in actions taking place in a particular area (for example, in your community or in an ecosystem or a facility that affects you). If this is the case, you can inform the appropriate agency or agencies that you would like to be notified of any proposed action or any environmental impact analysis that might be prepared in that area. In addition, many agencies now have websites where they post notices for actions they are proposing.

Active Involvement

Being active in the NEPA process requires you to dedicate your resources to the effort. Environmental impact analyses can be technical and lengthy. Active involvement in the NEPA process requires a commitment of time and a willingness to share information with the decisionmaking agency and other citizens. You may participate as an individual, get involved by working with other interested individuals or organizations, or by working through your local, Tribal, or State government. For example, if an agency is taking an action for which your local, State or Tribal government has special expertise or approval authority, the appropriate State, local or Tribal agency can become a “cooperating agency” with the Federal agency.⁵⁰ This formal status does not increase their role in decisionmaking, but it does allow the governments to use their knowledge and authorities to help shape the federal decisionmaking.

Another way to participate is to check with local experts such as biologists or economists at a university to assist with your review of the NEPA analyses and documents. You can also form study groups to review environmental impact analyses and enlist experts to review your comments on the documents. There are many examples, such as the one in the following box, of situations where citizen groups have worked with agencies to develop an alternative to a proposal where the agency adopted that alternative.

⁵⁰ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. §§ 1501.6, 1508.5.

Forest Service Herbicide Use in the Pacific Northwest

In many cases, cooperation isn't the first experience that communities and agencies share with one another. In the case of aerial herbicide spraying by the Forest Service in the 1980's across Washington and Oregon, litigation gave way to collaboration that yielded a better decision for all parties.

At issue was the use of 2,4-D, a herbicide comprising half of the well known Agent Orange, which was being sprayed on large tracts of clear-cut forest in an effort to suppress competition with the replanted conifers from all other plants, including native trees and grasses. In 1984, as a result of a citizen lawsuit, a federal judge ordered the Forest Service to stop herbicide use until the agency addressed the problems associated with its use. The Forest Service decided to draft a new EIS for vegetation management and thereby opened the door for public involvement in their decision.

A coalition of tree planters, scientists, rural residents, and herbicide reform activists volunteered to work with the Forest Service to develop an alternative that didn't rely on herbicides for vegetation management. The group identified several simple alternatives such as planting two-year old trees rather than planting seedlings, because the trees are better able to deal with encroachment. Likewise, letting native red alders grow will actually benefit new conifer growth because the alders fix nitrogen in the soils. Much to the coalition's surprise the forest supervisor selected most of the "least-herbicide" approaches for implementation.

Through NEPA, citizens were able to educate and assist the decision-makers in developing their alternatives. Central to their approach was bringing to the table alternatives that met their goals of reducing herbicide use and the goals of the decision-maker to effectively manage vegetation.

Information taken from "Standing Up for This World" by Mary O'Brien in September/October 2004 issue of *Orion*, pages 56-64.

Your involvement in the NEPA process does not have to be confined to commenting on the analysis. If the agency adopts monitoring and mitigation in the ROD, upon request, it must make available to the public the results of relevant monitoring.⁵¹ It must also, upon request,

⁵¹ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. §1505.3(d).

inform cooperating or commenting agencies on progress in carrying out mitigation measures which they have proposed and which were adopted by the agency making the decision.⁵² Community groups can also be involved in monitoring.⁵³

In summary, there are several opportunities to get involved in the NEPA process:

- ❖ when the agency prepares its NEPA procedures,
- ❖ prior to and during preparation of a NEPA analysis,
- ❖ when a NEPA document is published for public review and comment, and
- ❖ when monitoring the implementation of the proposed action and the effectiveness of any associated mitigation.

Other Processes that Require Public Involvement

When a proposed action is part of a permitting process there may also be opportunities to comment provided in the statute or regulations for that permitting process in addition to the NEPA public involvement opportunities discussed above. For example, public involvement is required by most Federal agency land use planning regulations. While this guide does not explore all of those additional possibilities for comment, the NEPA team working on a particular proposal will be familiar with the various comment periods and will be able to inform you of those opportunities. Note that the permitting and NEPA processes should be integrated or run concurrently in order to have an effective and efficient decisionmaking process.

⁵² CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. §1505.3(c).

⁵³ See www.malpaisborderlandsgroup.org/science.asp for discussion of work undertaken by the Science Advisory Committee of the Malpai Borderlands Group in southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico.

Public Comment Periods

Agencies are required to make efforts to provide meaningful public involvement in their NEPA processes.⁵⁴ Citizens involved in the process should ensure that they know how agencies will inform the public that an action is proposed and the NEPA process is beginning (via Federal Register, newspapers, direct mailing, etc.); that certain documents are available; and that preliminary determinations have been made on the possible environmental effects of the proposal (e.g., what level of analysis the agency will initially undertake).

Agencies solicit different levels of involvement when they prepare an EA versus an EIS. In preparing an EIS, agencies are likely to have public meetings and are required to have a 45 day comment period after the draft EIS is made available. In the case of an agency preparing an EA, the CEQ regulations require the agency to involve the public to the extent practicable, but each agency has its own guidelines about how to involve the public for EAs. In any case, citizens are entitled to receive “environmental documents”, such as EAs, involved in the NEPA process.⁵⁵

In terms of a specific agency, required public comment periods associated with an EA or an EIS can be found in its NEPA implementing procedures. In some cases, the draft EIS that an agency prepares may be extremely long. In such cases, an agency may grant requests to extend the comment period to ensure enough time for the public and other agencies to review and comment.

Citizens who want to raise issues with the agency should do so at the earliest possible stage in the process. Agencies are much more likely to evaluate a new alternative or address a concern if it is raised in a timely manner. And the Supreme Court has held in two NEPA cases that if a person or organization expects courts to address an issue, such as evaluating a particular alternative, the issue must have been raised to the agency at a point in the administrative process when it can be meaningfully considered unless the issue involves a flaw in the agency’s analysis that is so obvious that there is no need for a commentator to point it out specifically.

⁵⁴ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. §§ 1501.4(b), 1506.6(b).

⁵⁵ CEQ NEPA Regulations, 40 C.F.R. §§ 1506.6, 1508.10.

How to Comment

Comments may be the most important contribution from citizens. Accordingly, comments should be clear, concise, and relevant to the analysis of the proposed action. Take the time to organize thoughts and edit the document submitted.⁵⁶ As a general rule, the tone of the comments should be polite and respectful. Those reviewing comments are public servants tasked with a job, and they deserve the same respect and professional treatment that you and other citizens expect in return. Comments that are solution oriented and provide specific examples will be more effective than those that simply oppose the proposed project. Comments that contribute to developing alternatives that address the purpose and need for the action are also effective. They are particularly helpful early in the NEPA process and should be made, if at all possible, during scoping, to ensure that reasonable alternatives can be analyzed and considered early in the process.

In drafting comments, try to focus on the purpose and need of the proposed action, the proposed alternatives, the assessment of the environmental impacts of those alternatives, and the proposed mitigation. It also helps to be aware of what other types of issues the decisionmaker is considering in relationship to the proposed action.

Commenting is not a form of “voting” on an alternative. The number of negative comments an agency receives does not prevent an action from moving forward. Numerous comments that repeat the same basic message of support or opposition will typically be responded to collectively. In addition, general comments that state an action will have “significant environmental effects” will not help an agency make a better decision unless the relevant causes and environmental effects are explained.

Finally, remember that decisionmakers also receive other information and data such as operational and technical information related to implementing an action that they will have to consider when making a final decision.

⁵⁶ There are many reference books for how to research issues, review documents, and write comments. One in particular is “The Art of Commenting” by Elizabeth Mullin from the Environmental Law Institute (Mullin, Elizabeth D. 2000. *The Art of Commenting: How to Influence Environmental Decisionmaking with Effective Comments*, Environmental Law Institute. Washington, DC). Another useful reference for those involved in commenting on transportation projects is the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials’ (AASHTO) Practitioner’s Handbook 05-Utilizing Community Advisory Committees for NEPA Studies, December, 2006, available at <http://environment.transportation.org> or available through AASHTO’s Center for Environmental Excellence by calling (202) 624-3635.

What If Involvement Isn't Going Well?

For the purposes of this discussion, “not going well” means that you or your organization believes that the lead agency isn’t giving the public sufficient opportunity to get involved or isn’t using that involvement effectively. Perhaps you think that the agency should hold a public meeting, and it refuses to do so. Or you or your community or group has developed an alternative that you think meets the purpose and need of the proposed action and reflects the policies set forth in NEPA, but the agency says it won’t analyze it in the NEPA document. Maybe you want an extension of the comment period because the document is very lengthy, and you simply need more time to review it. Or maybe you feel that communications between your organization and the lead agency have, for some reason, not been constructive.

The most appropriate steps to take if you find yourself in these kinds of situations always depend, of course, on the particular people, timing and proposal at hand. Nonetheless, here are some possible factors and courses of action to consider.

Don't Wait Too Long

First, don’t wait too long to raise your concerns; raise them as soon as practicable. If you just sit back and hope that things will get “better” or that your comments will have greater effect later, you may hear that “you should have raised this sooner.” At times, waiting can be detrimental to you as well as to the rest of the public and the agency involved. For example, if you feel strongly that a particular alternative should be addressed and do not raise it during the scoping process, then it will not get the benefit of comparative analysis with the other alternatives. In addition, it could result in a more expensive and lengthy process (costing taxpayers, including yourself, more) if your delayed suggestion results in the agency deciding to issue a supplemental EIS analyzing that alternative. Or if you, or your organization, later go to court to argue that a certain alternative should have been analyzed in the NEPA document, the judge may find that the court won’t consider that information because you should have raised your concern earlier during the NEPA process.

Contact the Agency

Your first line of recourse should be with the individual that the agency has identified as being in charge of this particular process.

See if you can sit down with him or her to discuss your concern(s). You may be pleasantly surprised at the response.

Other Assistance

If, for some reason, you believe that the process ahead may be particularly contentious or challenging, given a past history of community conflict or deeply divided interests, consider raising with the lead agency the possibility of designing a collaborative process with outside assistance.

One source of such assistance is the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution. Located in Tucson, Arizona, as part of the Morris K. Udall Foundation, the Institute is a Federal entity that offers neutral environmental conflict resolution design, facilitation, education, training, and mediation. Anyone, whether in or out of government, can call the Institute and ask to speak to a professional staff person to discuss the potential for the Institute's involvement in a proposed federal action. You might want to look at its website at www.ecr.gov or contact the Institute to get a better sense of who they are and what they do.⁵⁷ There may also be an environmental conflict resolution office in your state that can provide assistance, and there are also many other individuals and organizations in the private sector that provide various types of conflict resolution services. The U.S. Institute also maintains a publicly accessible roster of environmental mediators and facilitators (available at www.ecr.gov by clicking on "Resources").

NEPA's Requirements

Perhaps your concern involves understanding a legal requirement. There are, of course, many ways to obtain the advice of lawyers knowledgeable about the NEPA process: the lead agency, private attorneys, and public interest attorneys. Build your own understanding by reading information on the NEPA net website at <http://www.NEPA.gov>. You may also call the General Counsel's office or the Associate Director for NEPA Oversight at the Council on Environmental Quality for assistance in interpreting NEPA's legal requirements or for advice and assistance if you have tried to work with the lead agency but feel those efforts have been unsuccessful (see Appendix D for contact information).

⁵⁷ The Institute can be contacted via mailing address: U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, 130 S. Scott Ave. Tucson, AZ 85701; phone: (520) 901-8501; or electronic mail: usiecr@ecr.gov. You might also be interested in reviewing the April 2005 report of the National Environmental Conflict Resolution Advisory Committee that discusses the linkages between NEPA's policies and environmental conflict resolution and is available at <http://www.ecr.gov> by clicking on "Resources" and "NEPA and ECR".

Remedies Available

Finally, of course, there are both administrative and judicial remedies available. A few Federal agencies, such as the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service, have an administrative appeals process. Each process is specific to that agency. If an appeal is available, you may find it beneficial to invoke it to try to resolve your concerns with the agency's decisions without the need for a legal challenge. Moreover, a statute or agency regulation may require you to exhaust such an appeal procedure before seeking judicial review. Citizens who believe that a Federal agency's actions violate NEPA may seek judicial review (after any required administrative appeals) in Federal court under the Administration Procedures Act. If you are represented by a lawyer, you should consult with him or her about appropriate options and about communicating with the Federal agencies.

Final Thoughts

This guide was developed to explain the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), how it is implemented, and how people outside the Federal government — individual citizens, private sector applicants, members of organized groups, or representatives of Tribal, State, or local government agencies — can better participate in the assessment of environmental impacts conducted by Federal agencies. To learn more about CEQ and NEPA, visit our web sites at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/ceq> and <http://www.nepa.gov> or contact the CEQ Associate Director for NEPA Oversight at (202) 395-5750. Your thoughts and comments on improving this Guide for future editions are always welcome and can be addressed to:

CEQ NEPA Citizens Guide
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Appendix A

NEPAnet and How to Use It

NEPAnet
<http://www.NEPA.gov>

NEPAnet is the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA website which is supported by the Department of Energy. It contains a wealth of information related to NEPA as it has developed over the years in agencies and through the courts. Guidance as well as studies and reports from CEQ can be accessed from the site; and information on NEPA training can also be found.

Under the "National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)" section there are several useful links including:

- ❖ The NEPA Statute
- ❖ Executive Orders
- ❖ CEQ Regulations for Implementing NEPA
- ❖ Individual Federal Agency Procedures for Implementing NEPA*
- ❖ CEQ Guidance; topics include:
 - Environmental Conflict Resolution
 - Emergency Actions
 - Cumulative Effects Analysis
 - Cooperating Agencies

** The agency implementing procedures can be accessed here and are mentioned throughout the Citizen's Guide as an important part of the process.*

-
- Purpose and Need
 - Forest Health Projects
 - Environmental Justice
 - Transboundary Impacts
 - Pollution Prevention
 - Scoping
 - Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQ's NEPA Regulations
 - Wetlands
 - Prime Agricultural Land
 - Wild and Scenic Rivers
 - ❖ Federal Agency NEPA Web Sites
 - ❖ Federal NEPA Contacts
 - ❖ State Information
 - ❖ Tribal Information

The other sections provide information about:

- ❖ CEQ NEPA Studies
- ❖ CEQ NEPA Reports
- ❖ Environmental Impact Statements
- ❖ Environmental Impact Analysis
- ❖ Environmental Impact Assessment Professional Organizations
- ❖ International Environmental Impact Assessments
- ❖ NEPA Litigation
- ❖ NEPA Case law
- ❖ NEPA Training Information

Appendix B

The Federal Register and How to Use It

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>

The Federal Register is the official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations, as well as executive orders and other presidential documents. It is updated daily by 6 a.m. and is published Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

This is where you'll find notices from Federal agencies regarding their NEPA actions. Information on the availability of documents, schedule of meetings, and notices of intent to prepare EISs are also published in the Federal Register. In addition, EPA publishes a list of EISs that they have received from agencies each week, and a summary of ratings on EISs that they have reviewed.

The easiest way to pull up notices is to have as much information as possible. Key words such as the name of the agency, location of the action, date or date ranges of the publication are all helpful in the search.

Appendix C

EPA's EIS Rating System

EPA's Environmental Impact Statement Rating System Criteria

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/comments/ratings.html>

This website includes information about EISs that have been filed with EPA, EISs that are available for public comment, and information about EPA's review and rating of individual EISs.

EPA has developed a set of criteria for rating draft EISs. The rating system provides a basis upon which EPA makes recommendations to the lead agency for improving the draft EIS.

- ❖ Rating the Environmental Impact of the Action
- ❖ Rating the Adequacy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Rating The Environmental Impact of The Action

- ❖ **LO (Lack of Objections):** The review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the preferred alternative. The review may have disclosed opportunities for application of mitigation measures that could be accomplished with no more than minor changes to the proposed action.
- ❖ **EC (Environmental Concerns):** The review has identified environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment. Corrective measures may require changes to the preferred alternative or application of mitigation measures that can reduce the environmental impact.

❖ **EO (Environmental Objections):** The review has identified significant environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to adequately protect the environment. Corrective measures may require substantial changes to the preferred alternative or consideration of some other project alternative (including the no action alternative or a new alternative). The basis for environmental Objections can include situations:

1. Where an action might violate or be inconsistent with achievement or maintenance of a national environmental standard;
2. Where the Federal agency violates its own substantive environmental requirements that relate to EPA's areas of jurisdiction or expertise;
3. Where there is a violation of an EPA policy declaration;
4. Where there are no applicable standards or where applicable standards will not be violated but there is potential for significant environmental degradation that could be corrected by project modification or other feasible alternatives; or
5. Where proceeding with the proposed action would set a precedent for future actions that collectively could result in significant environmental impacts.

❖ **EU (Environmentally Unsatisfactory):** The review has identified adverse environmental impacts that are of sufficient magnitude that EPA believes the proposed action must not proceed as proposed. The basis for an environmentally unsatisfactory determination consists of identification of environmentally objectionable impacts as defined above and one or more of the following conditions:

1. The potential violation of or inconsistency with a national environmental standard is substantive and/or will occur on a long-term basis;
2. There are no applicable standards but the severity, duration, or geographical scope of the impacts associated with the proposed action warrant special attention; or

-
3. The potential environmental impacts resulting from the proposed action are of national importance because of the threat to national environmental resources or to environmental policies.

Rating The Adequacy of The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

- ❖ **1 (Adequate):** The draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of clarifying language or information.
- ❖ **2 (Insufficient Information):** The draft EIS does not contain sufficient information to fully assess environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment, or the reviewer has identified new reasonably available alternatives that are within the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the draft EIS, which could reduce the environmental impacts of the proposal. The identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussion should be included in the final EIS.
- ❖ **3 (Inadequate):** The draft EIS does not adequately assess the potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposal, or the reviewer has identified new, reasonably available, alternatives that are outside of the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the draft EIS, which should be analyzed in order to reduce the potentially significant environmental impacts. The identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussions are of such a magnitude that they should have full public review at a draft stage. This rating indicates EPA's belief that the draft EIS does not meet the purposes of NEPA and/or the Section 309 review, and thus should be formally revised and made available for public comment in a supplemental or revised draft EIS.

Appendix D

Agency NEPA Contacts

*<http://www.NEPA.gov>
<http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/contacts.cfm>*

The list of Federal NEPA Contacts is maintained on NEPAnet (*<http://www.NEPA.gov>*) under the heading “National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)” and is periodically updated.

The complete list is available via the link entitled “Federal NEPA Contacts” or available directly at *<http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/contacts.cfm>*. If you do not have computer access, call CEQ at (202) 395-5750 for assistance.

The CEQ NEPA Contacts are:

Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503
Phone: 202-395-5750
Fax: 202-456-6546

Mr. Horst Greczmiel, Associate Director for NEPA Oversight
Ms. Dinah Bear, General Counsel
Mr. Edward (Ted) Boling, Deputy General Counsel

Appendix E

Some Useful Definitions from the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA Implementing Regulations

Excerpts from 40 CFR part 1508
http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs/ceq/toc_ceq.htm

Section 1508.4 Categorical exclusion.

“Categorical exclusion” means a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and which have been found to have no such effect in procedures adopted by a Federal agency in implementation of these regulations (Sec. 1507.3) and for which, therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required. An agency may decide in its procedures or otherwise, to prepare environmental assessments for the reasons stated in Sec. 1508.9 even though it is not required to do so. Any procedures under this section shall provide for extraordinary circumstances in which a normally excluded action may have a significant environmental effect.

Section 1508.5 Cooperating agency.

“Cooperating agency” means any Federal agency other than a lead agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The selection and responsibilities of a cooperating agency are described in Sec. 1501.6. A State or local agency of similar qualifications or, when the effects are on a reservation, an Indian Tribe, may by agreement with the lead agency become a cooperating agency.

Section 1508.7 Cumulative impact.

“Cumulative impact” is the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past,

present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Section 1508.8 Effects.

“Effects” include:

- (a) Direct effects, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place.
- (b) Indirect effects, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects may include growth inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density or growth rate, and related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems.

Effects and impacts as used in these regulations are synonymous. Effects includes ecological (such as the effects on natural resources and on the components, structures, and functioning of affected ecosystems), aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative. Effects may also include those resulting from actions which may have both beneficial and detrimental effects, even if on balance the agency believes that the effect will be beneficial.

Section 1508.9 Environmental assessment.

“Environmental assessment”:

- (a) Means a concise public document for which a Federal agency is responsible that serves to:
 - 1. Briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact.
 - 2. Aid an agency’s compliance with the Act when no environmental impact statement is necessary.
 - 3. Facilitate preparation of a statement when one is necessary.

(b) Shall include brief discussions of the need for the proposal, of alternatives as required by section 102(2)(E), of the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, and a listing of agencies and persons consulted.

Section 1508.11 Environmental impact statement.

“Environmental impact statement” means a detailed written statement as required by section 102(2)(C) of the Act.

Section 1508.12 Federal agency.

“Federal agency” means all agencies of the Federal Government. It does not mean the Congress, the Judiciary, or the President, including the performance of staff functions for the President in his Executive Office. It also includes for purposes of these regulations States and units of general local government and Indian Tribes assuming NEPA responsibilities under section 104(h) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

Section 1508.13 Finding of no significant impact.

“Finding of no significant impact” means a document by a Federal agency briefly presenting the reasons why an action, not otherwise excluded (Sec. 1508.4), will not have a significant effect on the human environment and for which an environmental impact statement therefore will not be prepared. It shall include the environmental assessment or a summary of it and shall note any other environmental documents related to it (Sec. 1501.7(a)(5)). If the assessment is included, the finding need not repeat any of the discussion in the assessment but may incorporate it by reference.

Section 1508.14 Human environment.

“Human environment” shall be interpreted comprehensively to include the natural and physical environment and the relationship of people with that environment. (See the definition of “effects” (Sec. 1508.8).) This means that economic or social effects are not intended by themselves to require preparation of an environmental impact statement. When an environmental impact statement is prepared and economic or social and natural or physical environmental effects are interrelated, then the environmental impact statement will discuss all of these effects on the human environment.

Section 1508.16 Lead agency.

“Lead agency” means the agency or agencies preparing or having taken primary responsibility for preparing the environmental impact statement.

Section 1508.18 Major federal action.

“Major federal action” includes actions with effects that may be major and which are potentially subject to federal control and responsibility. Major reinforces but does not have a meaning independent of significantly (Sec. 1508.27). Actions include the circumstance where the responsible officials fail to act and that failure to act is reviewable by courts or administrative tribunals under the Administrative Procedure Act or other applicable law as agency action.

(a) Actions include new and continuing activities, including projects and programs entirely or partly financed, assisted, conducted, regulated, or approved by Federal agencies; new or revised agency rules, regulations, plans, policies, or procedures; and legislative proposals (Secs. 1506.8, 1508.17). Actions do not include funding assistance solely in the form of general revenue sharing funds, distributed under the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 1972, 31 U.S.C. 1221 et seq., with no Federal agency control over the subsequent use of such funds. Actions do not include bringing judicial or administrative civil or criminal enforcement actions.

(b) Federal actions tend to fall within one of the following categories:

1. Adoption of official policy, such as rules, regulations, and interpretations adopted pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 551 et seq.; treaties and international conventions or agreements; formal documents establishing an agency’s policies which will result in or substantially alter agency programs.
2. Adoption of formal plans, such as official documents prepared or approved by Federal agencies which guide or prescribe alternative uses of federal resources, upon which future agency actions will be based.

-
3. Adoption of programs, such as a group of concerted actions to implement a specific policy or plan; systematic and connected agency decisions allocating agency resources to implement a specific statutory program or executive directive.
 4. Approval of specific projects, such as construction or management activities located in a defined geographic area. Projects include actions approved by permit or other regulatory decision as well as federal and federally assisted activities.

Section 1508.20 Mitigation.

“Mitigation” includes:

- (a) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action.
- (b) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation.
- (c) Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment.
- (d) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.
- (e) Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Section 1508.22 Notice of intent.

“Notice of intent” means a notice that an environmental impact statement will be prepared and considered. The notice shall briefly:

- (a) Describe the proposed action and possible alternatives.
- (b) Describe the agency’s proposed scoping process including whether, when, and where any scoping meeting will be held.
- (c) State the name and address of a person within the agency who can answer questions about the proposed action and the environmental impact statement.

Section 1508.23 Proposal.

“Proposal” exists at that stage in the development of an action when an agency subject to the Act has a goal and is actively preparing to make a decision on one or more alternative means of accomplishing that goal and the effects can be meaningfully evaluated. Preparation of an environmental impact statement on a proposal should be timed (Sec. 1502.5) so that the final statement may be completed in time for the statement to be included in any recommendation or report on the proposal. A proposal may exist in fact as well as by agency declaration that one exists.

Section 1508.25 Scope.

“Scope” consists of the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered in an environmental impact statement. The scope of an individual statement may depend on its relationships to other statements (Secs. 1502.20 and 1508.28). To determine the scope of environmental impact statements, agencies shall consider 3 types of actions, 3 types of alternatives, and 3 types of impacts. They include:

- (a) Actions (other than unconnected single actions) which may be:
 - (1) Connected actions, which means that they are closely related and therefore should be discussed in the same impact statement. Actions are connected if they:
 - (i) Automatically trigger other actions which may require environmental impact statements.
 - (ii) Cannot or will not proceed unless other actions are taken previously or simultaneously.
 - (iii) Are interdependent parts of a larger action and depend on the larger action for their justification.
 - (2) Cumulative actions, which when viewed with other proposed actions have cumulatively significant impacts and should therefore be discussed in the same impact statement.
 - (3) Similar actions, which when viewed with other reasonably foreseeable or proposed agency actions, have similarities that provide a basis for evaluating their environmental consequences together, such as common timing or geography. An agency may

wish to analyze these actions in the same impact statement. It should do so when the best way to assess adequately the combined impacts of similar actions or reasonable alternatives to such actions is to treat them in a single impact statement.

(b) Alternatives, which include:

- (1) No action alternative.
- (2) Other reasonable courses of actions.
- (3) Mitigation measures (not in the proposed action).

(c) Impacts, which may be: (1) Direct; (2) indirect; (3) cumulative.

Section 1508.27 Significantly.

“Significantly” as used in NEPA requires considerations of both context and intensity:

(a) Context. This means that the significance of an action must be analyzed in several contexts such as society as a whole (human, national), the affected region, the affected interests, and the locality. Significance varies with the setting of the proposed action. For instance, in the case of a site-specific action, significance would usually depend upon the effects in the locale rather than in the world as a whole. Both short- and long-term effects are relevant.

(b) Intensity. This refers to the severity of impact. Responsible officials must bear in mind that more than one agency may make decisions about partial aspects of a major action. The following should be considered in evaluating intensity:

- (1) Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse. A significant effect may exist even if the Federal agency believes that on balance the effect will be beneficial.
- (2) The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.
- (3) Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park

lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

- (4) The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.
- (5) The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.
- (6) The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.
- (7) Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts. Significance exists if it is reasonable to anticipate a cumulatively significant impact on the environment. Significance cannot be avoided by terming an action temporary or by breaking it down into small component parts.
- (8) The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.
- (9) The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
- (10) Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

Section 1508.28 Tiering.

“Tiering” refers to the coverage of general matters in broader environmental impact statements (such as national program or policy statements) with subsequent narrower statements or environmental analyses (such as regional or basinwide program statements or ultimately site-specific statements) incorporating by reference the

general discussions and concentrating solely on the issues specific to the statement subsequently prepared. Tiering is appropriate when the sequence of statements or analyses is:

(a) From a program, plan, or policy environmental impact statement to a program, plan, or policy statement or analysis of lesser scope or to a site-specific statement or analysis.

(b) From an environmental impact statement on a specific action at an early stage (such as need and site selection) to a supplement (which is preferred) or a subsequent statement or analysis at a later stage (such as environmental mitigation). Tiering in such cases is appropriate when it helps the lead agency to focus on the issues which are ripe for decision and exclude from consideration issues already decided or not yet ripe.

Exhibits

WELCOME!

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING #2

US 281 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

5:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

Tuesday November 17, 2009



ALAMO RMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority

"Moving people faster"

N-851

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

- Please Sign In -

- Pick Up Your Information Packet
- Tour the Exhibits at Your Own Pace
- Join us for the Public Presentation at 6:30 P.M.
- Participate in the Small Group Work Sessions from 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
- Please Record Your Comments



ALAMO RMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
"Moving faster"

HOW TO RECORD AND SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS

At the Meeting:

- Fill out a **comment card** and drop in the comment box
- and/or
- Give your comments verbally to the Court Reporter

After the Meeting:

- Submit comments **by fax to 210-495-5403** or **e-mail to US281EIS@AlamoRMA.org** (Electronic comments will continue to be received through Monday, November 30, 2009)
- **Mail written** comments (postmarked by Monday, November 30, 2009) to:

Leroy Alloway, Director, Community Development
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
1222 N. Main Avenue, Suite 1000
San Antonio, Texas 78212



ALAMORMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
"Moving faster"

COURT REPORTER

All Comments given to the
Court Reporter will be included
in the Public Meeting Record



ALAMO RMA
Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
"Moving people faster"

AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THE EIS PROCESS

LEAD AGENCIES:

- Alamo Regional Mobility Authority
- Federal Highway Administration
- Texas Department of Transportation – Environmental Affairs Division

INVITED COOPERATING AND PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Services
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife
- U.S. Department of the Interior
- Native American Tribes (multiple)
- Texas Historical Commission
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Bexar County
- City of San Antonio
- Comal County
- City of Bulverde
- Edwards Aquifer Authority
- San Antonio Water System
- San Antonio River Authority
- San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization
- VIA Metropolitan Transit
- Alamo Area Council of Governments
- Bexar Metropolitan Water District
- Camp Bullis

WHAT IS NEPA?

NEPA's National Objectives:

1. Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
2. Assure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
3. Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
4. Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity, and variety of individual choice;
5. Achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and
6. Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

The Congress recognizes that each person should enjoy a **healthful environment** and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the environment.

A Federal agency must prepare an EIS if it is proposing a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Excerpts from: A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA, December 2007



WHAT IS NEPA?

The **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)** requires agencies to undertake an assessment of the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions. Two major purposes of the environmental review process are ***better informed decisions and citizen involvement*** both of which should lead to implementation on NEPA's policies.

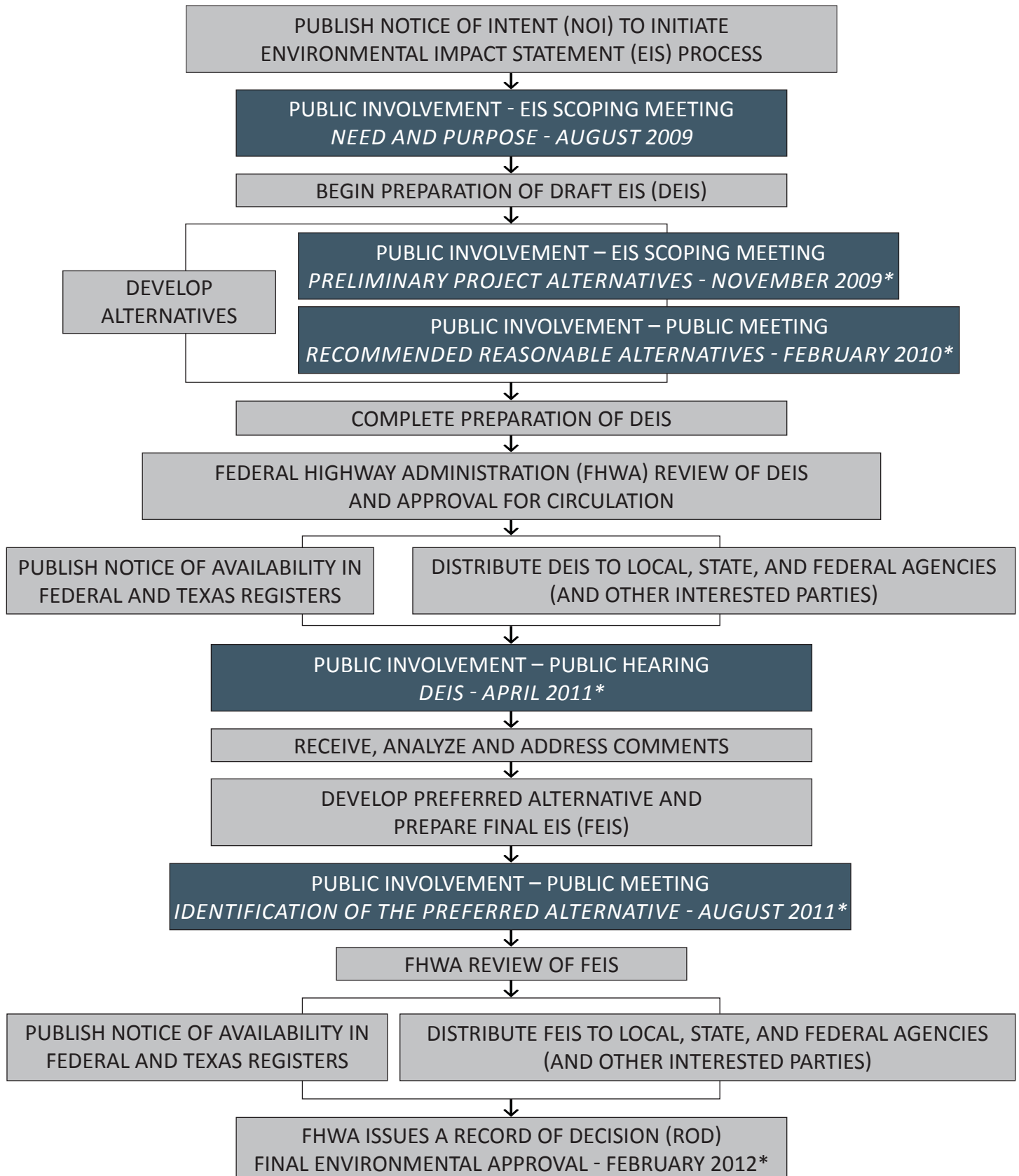
In 1969, the Congress declared “that it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with the State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations, to use all practicable means and measures ...to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans.”

Excerpts from: A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA, December 2007





ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROCESS



* Approximate Dates

WHAT IS A NEED AND PURPOSE STATEMENT?

The Need and Purpose Statement explains why an action is necessary and what purpose the action will serve. The Statement serves as the basis for identifying and evaluating preliminary alternatives that meet the need and purpose.

Excerpts from: A Citizen's Guide to the NEPA, December 2007

PRELIMINARY NEED AND PURPOSE:

GROWTH

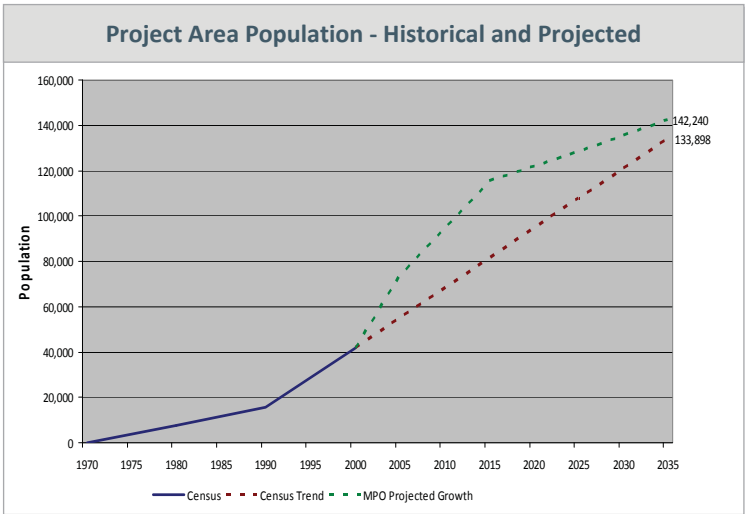
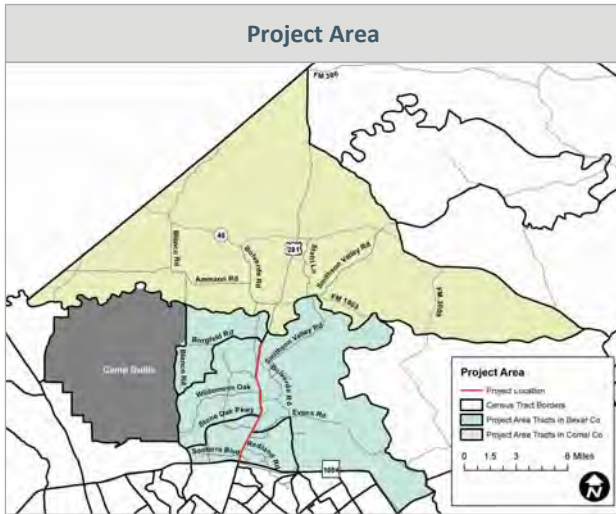
SAFETY

FUNCTIONALITY

QUALITY OF LIFE

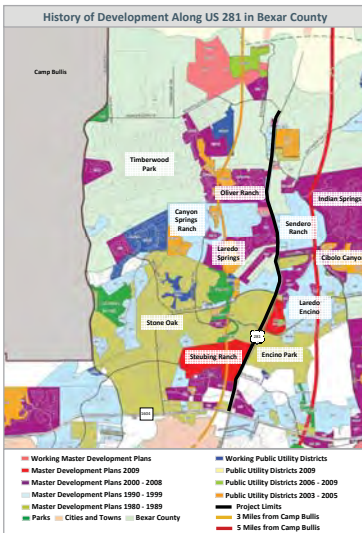


GROWTH



Source: US Census Bureau, 1970, 1980, 1990 & 2000 & San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization, as of June 2009

The population in the project area is estimated to more than double by the year 2035

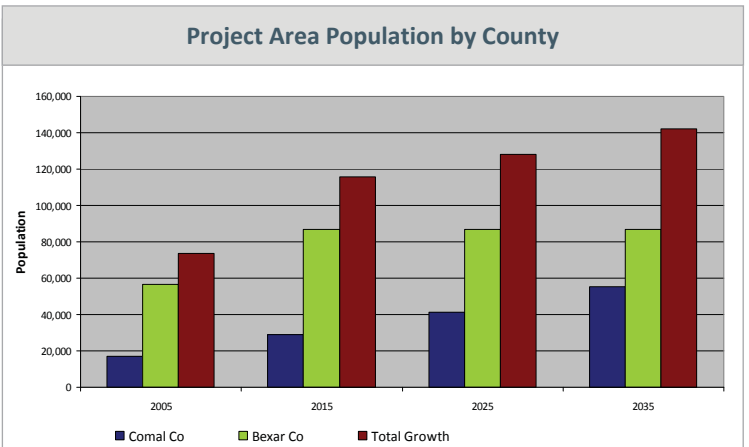


Source: City of San Antonio, as of July 2009

Growth of Residential Development Along US 281		
Number of New Lots * (Annual)		% Change
Comal County		
2004	3,301	
2008	9,602	
2004 to 2008 – Comal County		190.9 %
Bexar County		
2004	4,036	
2006	5,092	
2004 to 2006 – Bexar County		26.1 %

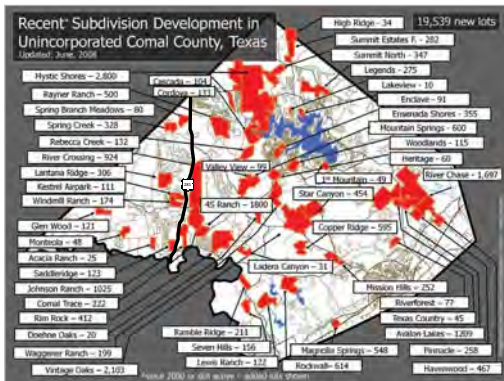
* Lots in Bexar County assume 2.19 lots per acre
Source: City of San Antonio, as of 2006 & Comal County Engineer's Office, as of June 2008

Historical Population Growth - US Census	
1990 - 2000	110.2%
Comal County	
1990 - 2000	208.6%
Bexar County	
1990 - 2000	169.5%
Total Growth	
MPO Projected Growth	
2000 - 2035	328.4%
Comal County	
2000 - 2035	200.5%
Bexar County	
2000 - 2035	240.1%
Total Growth	



Source: US Census Bureau, 1970, 1980, 1990 & 2000, & San Antonio-Bexar County Metropolitan Planning Organization, as of June 2009

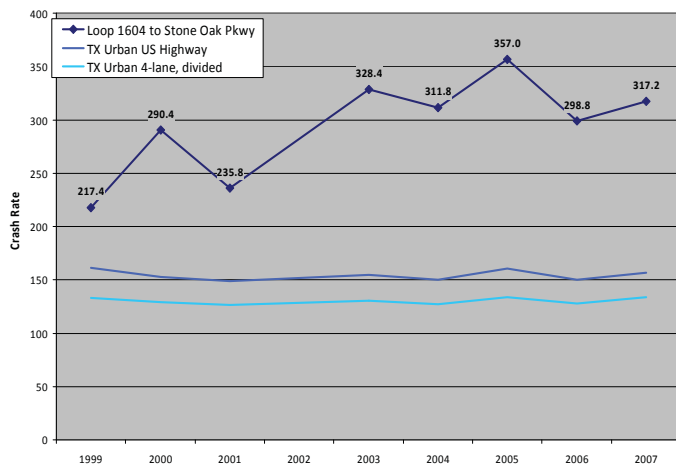
More than half of the growth by 2035 is expected to be in Comal County



Source: Comal County Engineer's Office, as of June 2008

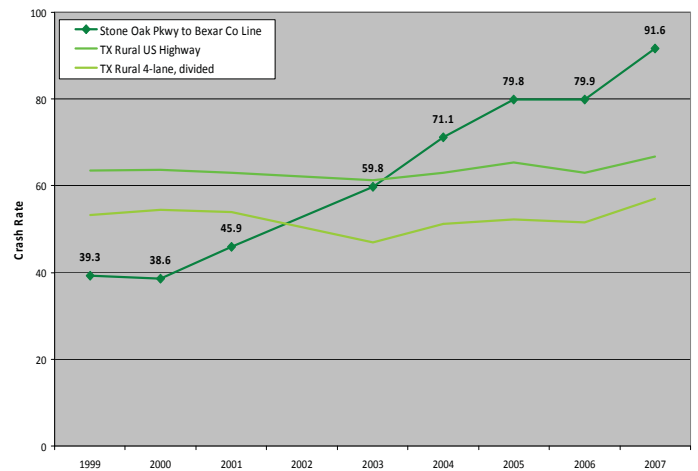
SAFETY

Urban - Crashes per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled



Source: Traffic Operations Division, Texas Department of Transportation, as of June 2009

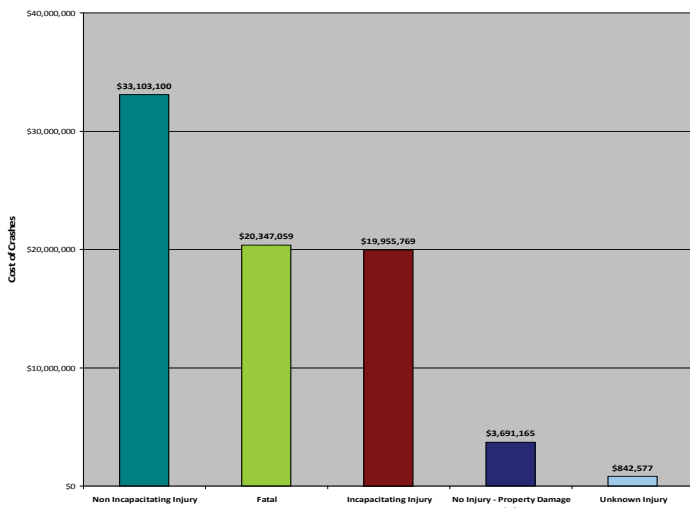
Rural - Crashes per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled



Source: Traffic Operations Division, Texas Department of Transportation, as of June 2009

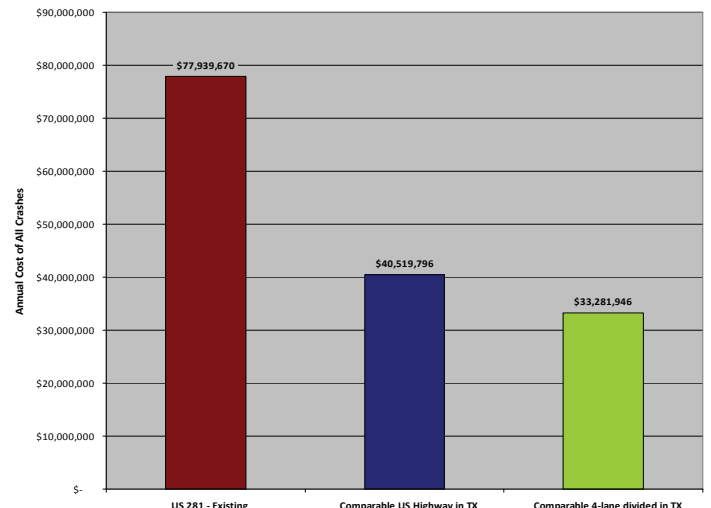
The crash rate on US 281 is substantially higher than the Statewide average

Total Cost of Crashes – 2003 to 2007



Source: Texas Department of Transportation, as of June 2009 and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, as of 2006

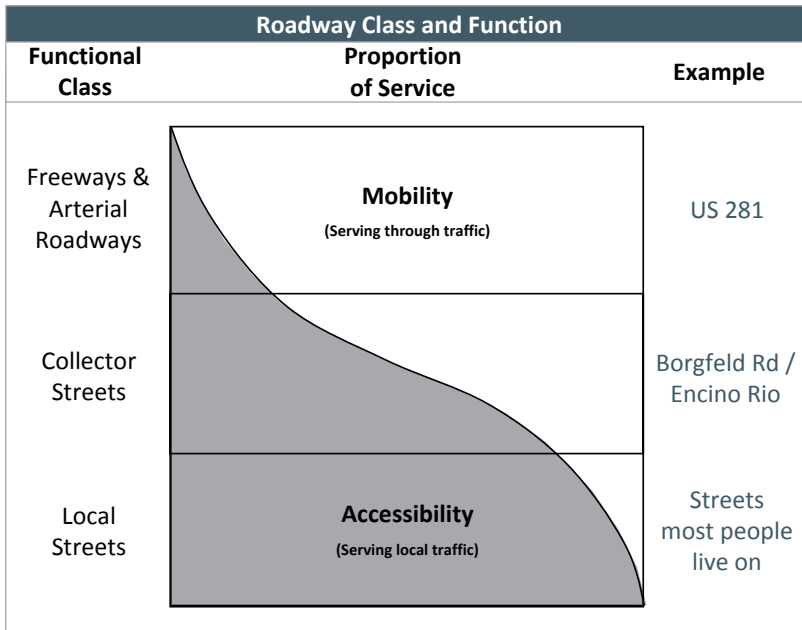
US 281 Crash Cost Comparison – 2003 to 2007



Source: Texas Department of Transportation, as of June 2009 and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, as of 2006

The cost of crashes on US 281 was almost twice as much as an average US Highway in Texas

FUNCTIONALITY

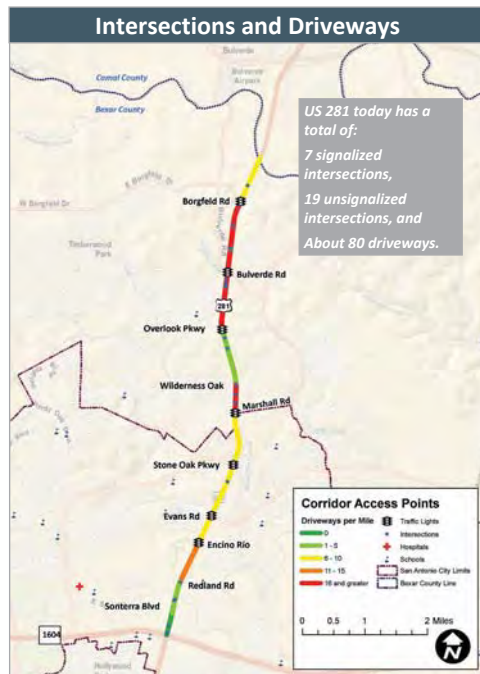


Source: FHWA Highway Capacity Manual, 2000

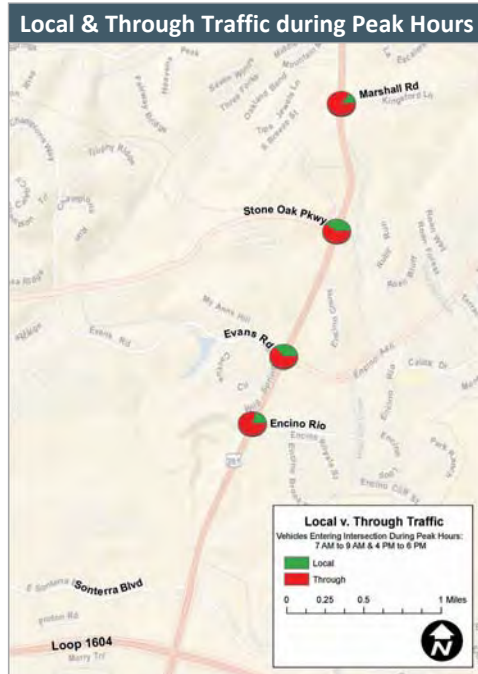


Source: Texas Department of Transportation, Statewide Planning Map, 2009

US 281 is classified as an arterial roadway to provide mobility through the corridor. However, recent land development trends have increased local traffic resulting in a conflict between mobility and accessibility.



Source: City of San Antonio, Aerial Image 2008



Source: Alamo RMA, 281 Proposed Super Street Traffic Study, as of June 2009

Marshall Road		
Local	935	14%
Through	5,952	86%
Total	6,887	100%

Stone Oak Pkwy		
Local	4,785	41%
Through	6,985	59%
Total	11,770	100%

Evans Road		
Local	4,530	37%
Through	7,770	63%
Total	12,300	100%

Encino Rio		
Local	2,796	20%
Through	10,955	80%
Total	13,751	100%

FUNCTIONALITY



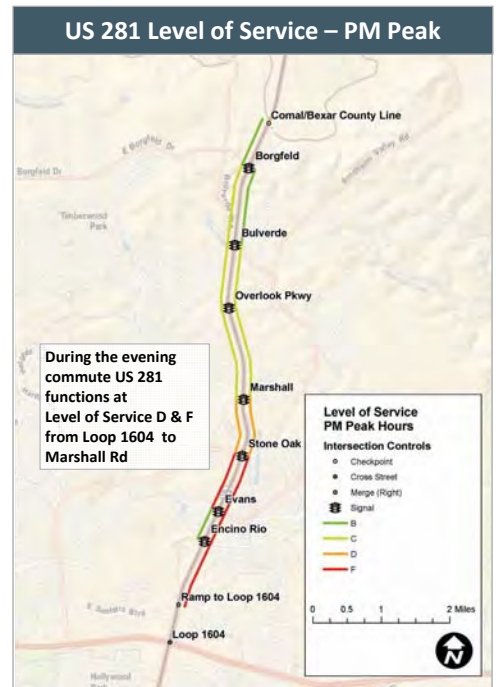
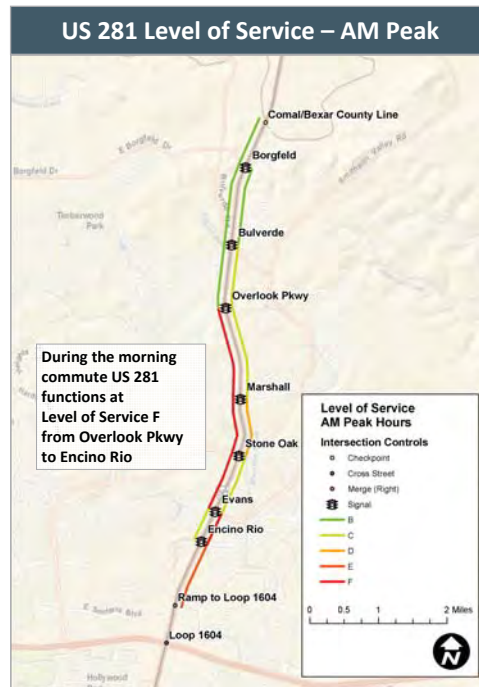
Level of Service **A**



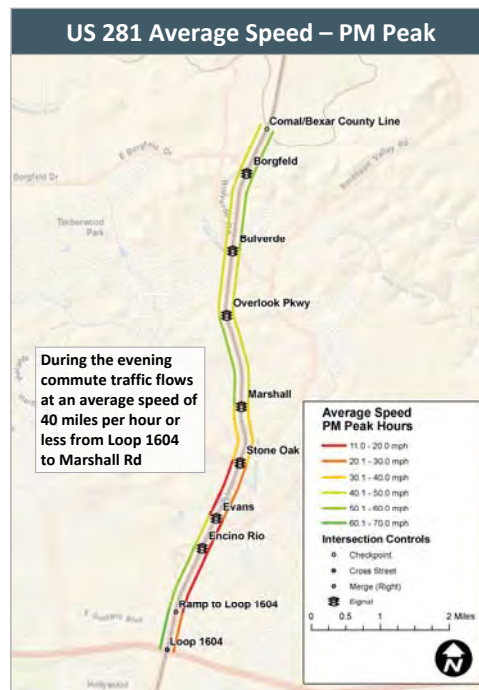
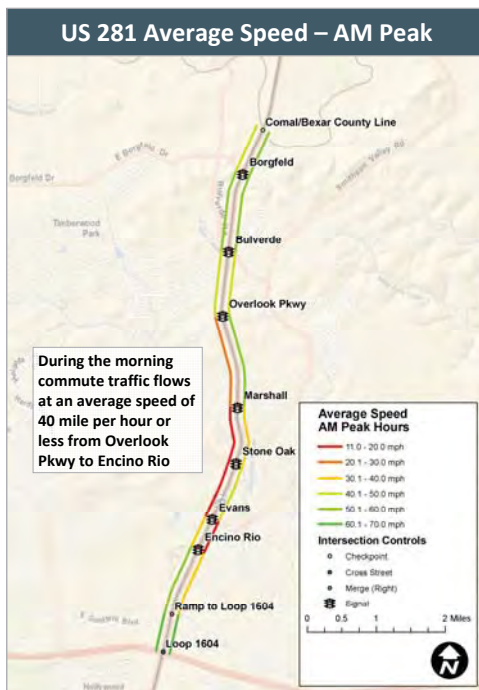
Level of Service **B**



Level of Service **C**



During Peak Hours US 281 experiences diminished Level of Service and slow Average Speed



Level of Service **D**



Level of Service **E**



Level of Service **F**

Source: FHWA Highway Capacity Manual, 2000

QUALITY OF LIFE

The annual hours of delay on US 281 and the cost of congestion are expected to increase 172% from 2006 to 2014

US 281 at 11:30 am on June 12, 2009

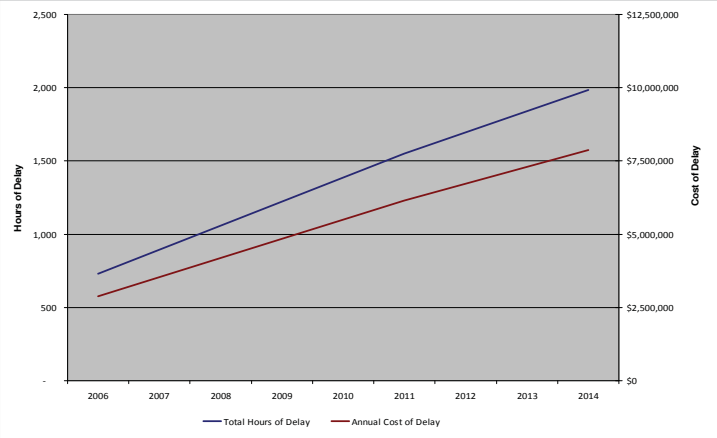


Southbound looking North



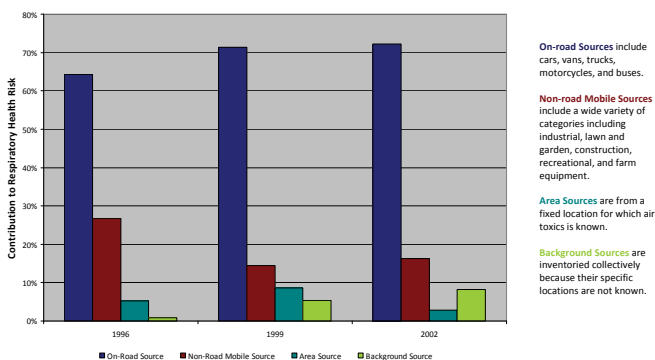
Southbound looking South

Annual Hours of Delay During AM/PM Peak Hours



Source: Alamo RMA, 281 Proposed Super Street Traffic Study, as of June 2009

Sources of Air Toxics Along the US 281 Corridor that Pose Potential Respiratory Health Risk



Source: EPA - National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment, 1996, 1999 & 2002

Harmful On-Road emissions are expected to increase by 27% from 2006 to 2014

Total Annual Cost of Vehicle Emissions*

Emission Type	2006	2011	2014	Percent Change (2006-2014)
Nitrogen Oxides	\$ 170,720	\$ 223,122	\$ 250,150	46.5%
Volatile Organic Compounds	\$ 162,535	\$ 212,376	\$ 238,399	46.7%
Carbon Monoxide	\$ 34,058	\$ 44,483	\$ 49,899	46.5%
Total	\$ 367,313	\$ 479,981	\$ 538,448	46.6%

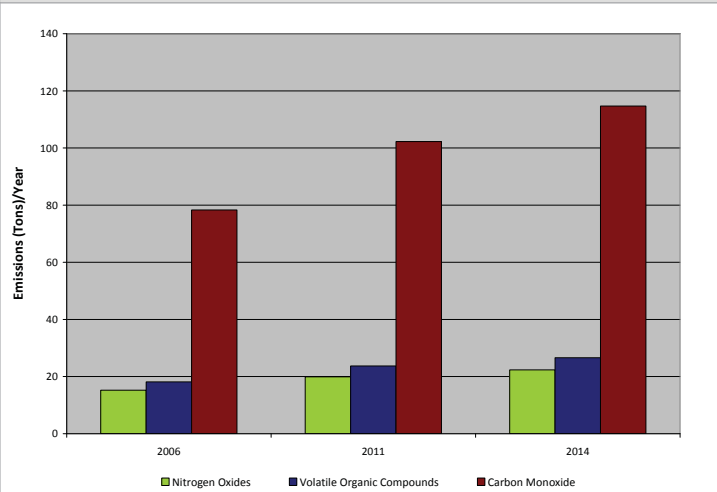
* Costs are calculated using expenses related to health, ecological, and aesthetic degradation

Source: Alamo RMA, Super Street Traffic Study, as of June 2009 and Victoria Transport Policy Institute, 2006

Note: Future Emissions and Associated Costs are based on 2006 emission factors and do not reflect more recent policy incentives, such as the 'Cash for Clunkers' program, or technological advancement in the automotive industry that could reduce mobile sources of air pollution.

On-road vehicles are a substantial source of air toxics that pose potential respiratory health risk along US 281

Annual Total Emissions During AM/PM Peak Hours



Source: Alamo RMA, 281 Proposed Super Street Traffic Study, as of June 2009

Total vehicle emissions cost along the US 281 corridor is expected to increase over 46% in health, ecological and aesthetic expenses by 2014

QUALITY OF LIFE



Walking Path Worn Into the Grass Along US 281, May 2009



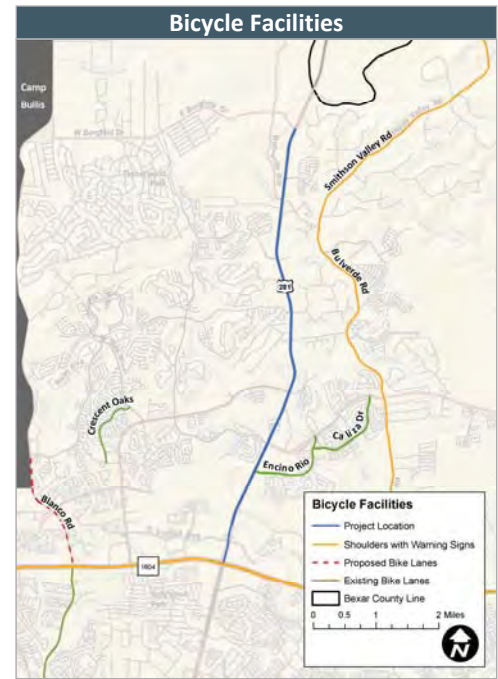
Residential Development in Close Proximity to US 281, August 2009



Traffic Signals are Designed for Cars, not Pedestrians, May 2009



Source: City of San Antonio, VIA, as of August 2008



Source: City of San Antonio, as of January 2004

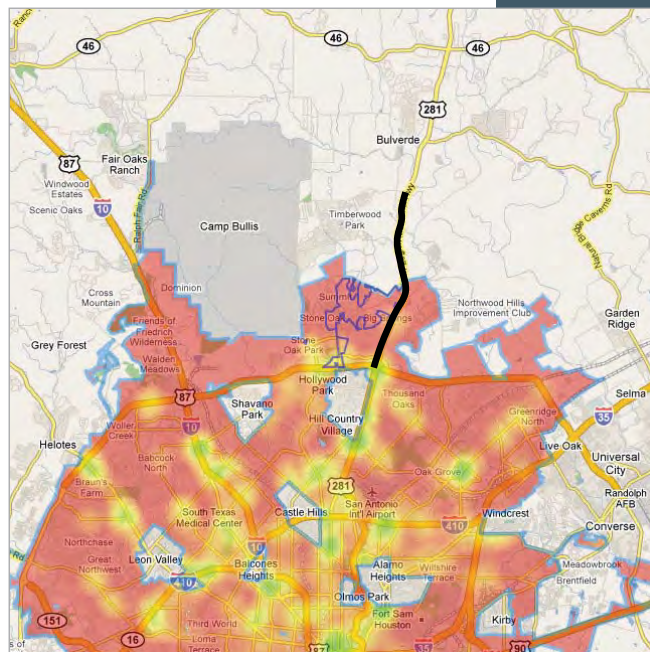
There are limited facilities for alternative modes of transportation along US 281

How "Walkable" Is the US 281 Corridor?

Street	Walk Score*	Sidewalks	Crosswalk at US 281
Borgfeld Rd	20	No	No
Bulverde Rd	9	No	Yes
Overlook Pkwy	6	Yes	No
Wilderness Oak	5	Yes	No
Marshall Rd	12	No	No
Stone Oak Pkwy	20	Yes	No
Evans Rd	25	Yes/Part	No
Encino Rio	55	Yes	No
Redland Rd	22	No	No
Sonterra Blvd	77	Yes/Part	Yes
City of San Antonio	45		

* Walk Score is out of 100 based on proximity to amenities.

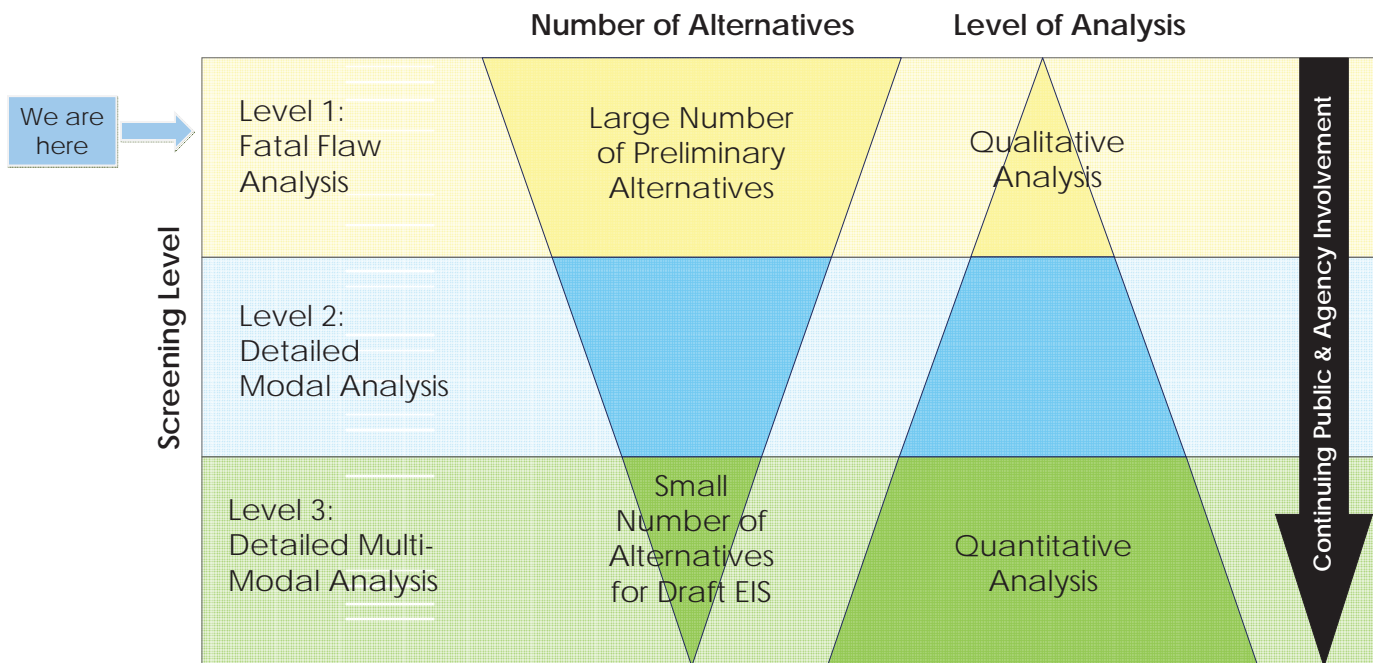
90 – 100	Most errands can be accomplished on foot and many people get by without owning a car.
70 – 89	It's possible to get by without owning a car.
50 – 69	Some stores and amenities are within walking distance, but many everyday trips still require a car.
25 – 49	Only a few destinations are within walking range. For most errands, driving is a must.
0 – 24	Virtually no neighborhood destinations are within walking range.



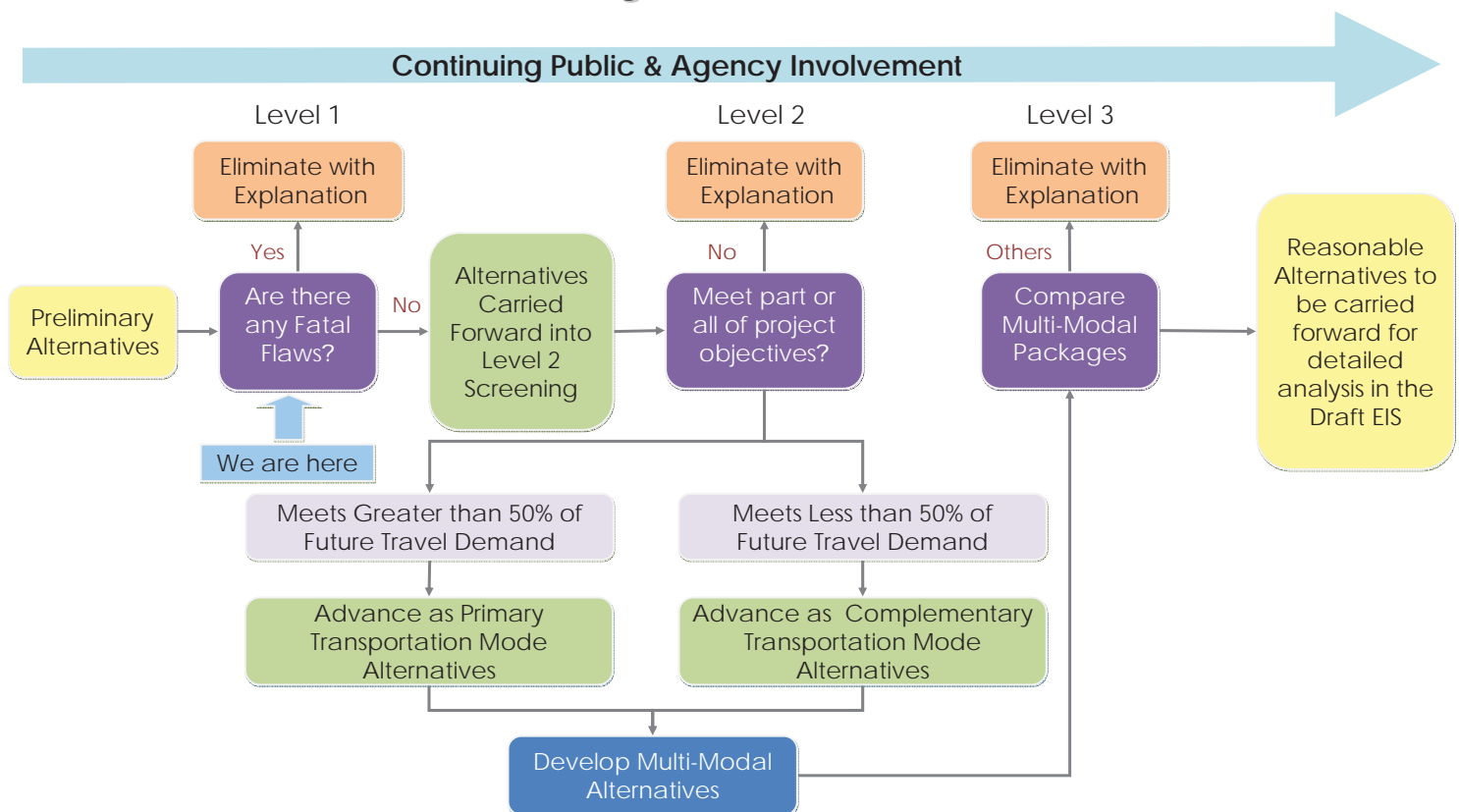
Source: www.walkscore.com & Google Maps, Street View, as of July 2009

ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Alternatives Evaluation Process



Detailed Alternative Screening Process



ALTERNATIVES SCREENING PROCESS

Level 1: Fatal Flaw Analysis (Qualitative)

- Evaluate Alternatives for Fatal Flaws:
 - Not compatible with regional plans
 - Unproven technology
 - Major adverse impacts

Level 2: Detailed Modal Analysis (Quantitative)

- Evaluation based on quantitative measures may include:
 - Capacity and demand
 - Safety improvement
 - Travel time improvement
 - Engineering feasibility
- Alternatives grouped as primary and complementary transportation modes

Level 3: Detailed Multi-Modal Analysis (Quantitative)

- Combine primary and complementary transportation modes to form comprehensive solutions
- Detailed evaluation/comparison of multi-modal alternatives using additional criteria such as:
 - Right-of-way requirements
 - Relocation and displacements
 - Cost effectiveness
 - Environmental considerations
- Recommendation of a set of reasonable alternatives for evaluation in the Draft EIS

All Draft EIS Highway Improvement Alternatives will be analyzed for both toll and non-toll effects

Public review and comment on reasonable alternatives



PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

No Build Alternative

Description:

- US 281 Super Street improvements
- Upgrade to the Loop 1604/US 281 Interchange
- All planned short and long range regional transportation improvements (except the US 281 Corridor North of Loop 1604)
- Short-term minor maintenance and safety improvements that maintain the continued operation of existing US 281 North of Loop 1604



Super Street



Provides a baseline to compare against all build alternatives

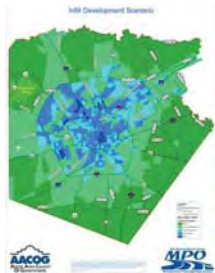
Recommendation: To be carried forward to the Draft EIS



Growth Management

Description:

- Focus growth within urban core
- Encourage more efficient land use and reduce trip lengths
- Part of the MPO Long Range Plan



Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

Bike & Pedestrian Facilities

Description:

- More efficient means of making short trips
- Low cost
- Reduces congestion
- Promotes healthy lifestyle



San Diego, California

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Transportation System Management (TSM)

Description:

- Easily implemented, low capital cost transportation improvements that increase the efficiency of transportation facilities and services

Examples:

- Improved intersection or signal operation
- Access management
- Ridesharing
- Incident management program

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

Description:

- Typically refers to policies, programs, and actions that are directed towards decreasing single occupant vehicle travel

Examples:

- Area pricing
- Mandatory alternative work schedules
- Parking management

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

2 - 14"x44" boards
1 copy of each board (2 boards total)

PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES - FIXED GUIDEWAY TRANSIT*

*North of Loop 1604

Heavy Rail

Description:

- Commonly called metros or subways
- Operates in densely populated urban areas on steel tracks in exclusive right-of-way
- Powered by an electrified third rail alongside the track

Recommendation: To be eliminated (not compatible with regional plans)

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 15-40 miles
- Station Spacing: ½-5 miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 30 mph/70 mph
- Service Frequency: 5-10 minutes (peak period)
10-20 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 60-80 seated (plus standees)



Washington, DC

Commuter Rail

Description:

- Typically operates in freight rail right-of-way
- May use locomotives with passenger cars or self-propelled passenger cars, known as Diesel Multiple Units (DMUs)
- Serves longer distance commute

Recommendation: To be eliminated (not compatible with corridor plans)

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 20-80 miles
- Station Spacing: 2-10 miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 30 mph/90 mph
- Service Frequency: 30 minutes (peak period)
60 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 100-150 seated



Fort Worth, TX

Monorail

Description:

- Elevated on a concrete or steel guideway
- Can be operated by a driver or automated
- Historically used in recreational areas or downtowns

Recommendation: To be eliminated (not compatible with regional plans)

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 1-18 miles
- Station Spacing: ¼-1 mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 30 mph/70 mph
- Service Frequency: 5-10 minutes (peak period)
10-20 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 28-30 seated (plus standees)



Las Vegas, NV

Automated Guideway Transit

Description:

- Found in major airports, activity centers, and downtown areas
- Similar to monorail (driverless, electrically powered and exclusive right-of-way)
- May be tunneled, elevated, and/or at grade

Recommendation: To be eliminated (not compatible with regional plans)

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 1-5 miles
- Station Spacing: ¼-½ mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 8-15 mph/30 mph
- Service Frequency: 1-10 minutes (peak period)
5-20 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 30-100 seated



Detroit, MI

PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES - FIXED GUIDEWAY TRANSIT*

*North of Loop 1604

Personal Rapid Transit

Recommendation: To be eliminated (not compatible with regional plans)

Description:

- Designed to provide personalized service between specific origin and destination stations
- Operates on demand with no intermediate stops

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 1-5 miles
- Station Spacing: ¼-½ mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 8-15 mph/30 mph
- Service Frequency: 10 seconds - 1 minute
- Car Capacity: < 5 seated



Morgantown, WV

Light Rail

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Description:

- Medium capacity, higher speed service in urban areas
- Operates on steel rails with overhead electric power
- Can operate in exclusive rights-of-way (either at-grade or elevated) and share city streets

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 5-20 miles
- Station Spacing: ½-2 miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 20-25 mph/70 mph
- Service Frequency: 5-10 minutes (peak period)
10-20 minutes (off peak period)
- Car Capacity: 32-90 seated (plus standees)



Houston, TX

Streetcar

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

Description:

- Shares city streets to provide circulation or connector services
- Operates on steel wheels or rubber tires with overhead electric power

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 5 miles or less
- Station Spacing: ¼-½ miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 8-15 mph/45 mph
- Service Frequency: 10-15 minutes (peak period)
30-60 minutes (off-peak period)
- Car Capacity: 16-60 seated (plus standees)



Portland, OR

PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES - NON FIXED GUIDEWAY TRANSIT*

*North of Loop 1604

Fixed Route Bus Service

Description:

- Operates in mixed traffic on existing streets
- On-board fare collection
- Frequent stops and wide coverage area

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: varies
- Station Spacing: ¼- 1 mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 10-15 mph/60 mph
- Service Frequency: 15-30 minutes (peak)
60 minutes (off-peak)
- Car Capacity: 40-50 seated
(plus standees)

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening



San Antonio, TX

Express Bus Service

Description:

- Limited stops and direct routes between clusters of origins and destinations (e.g. suburb to downtown)
- Operates in mixed traffic on existing streets or in HOV Lanes (Dallas and Houston)
- Faster and more expensive than Fixed Route service

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: varies
- Station Spacing: ½ - 10 miles
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 20-40 mph/60 mph
- Service Frequency: 15-30 minutes (peak)
60 minutes (off-peak)
- Car Capacity: 40-50 seated
(plus standees)

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening



San Antonio, TX

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Description:

- Operates in preferential or exclusive bus lanes
- Signal prioritization
- Improved fare collection process
- Easier boarding system
- Enhanced Passenger Information Technology

Typical Characteristics:

- Service Distance: 8 - 15 miles or less
- Station Spacing: ½ - 1 mile
- Speeds (Avg/Max): 15-40 mph/65 mph
- Service Frequency: 10-15 minutes (peak)
30-60 minutes (off-peak)
- Car Capacity: 60 seated (plus standees)

Recommendation: To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening



San Antonio, TX

PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES - HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS*

*North of Loop 1604

Add Lanes to Existing US 281 Corridor

Description:

- Additional lanes on existing US 281
- No grade separations or control of access

Recommendation: *To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening*



US 281 Today - Between Stone Oak Parkway and Evans Road - San Antonio, TX

Grade Separated Intersections

Description:

- Grade separation at major intersections
- Access to adjacent land use via short frontage roads and driveways
- Does not include continuous frontage roads

Recommendation: *To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening*



Wurzbach Parkway at Perrin Beitel Road - San Antonio, TX

Expand Parallel Corridors

Description:

- Upgrade Bulverde Road and/or Blanco Road
- Diversion of traffic from US 281 to parallel corridors

Recommendation: *To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening*



Blanco Road - San Antonio, TX



Bulverde Road - San Antonio, TX

New Parallel Corridor

Description:

- Build a new corridor parallel to US 281 between Bulverde Road and Blanco Road

Recommendation: *To be eliminated (high adverse impacts)*



San Antonio, TX

Upgrade Existing US 281 to Expressway

Description:

- Convert US 281 to completely grade separated expressway with continuous frontage roads
- Access to adjacent land uses through continuous frontage roads
- At grade, elevated and/or depressed options

Recommendation: *To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening*



US 281 at Donella Drive - San Antonio, TX



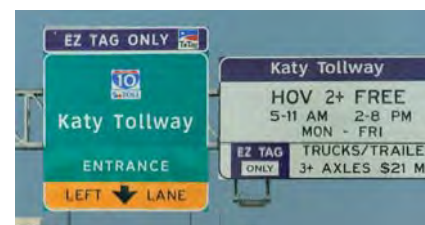
Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway - Tampa, FL

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) and High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes

Description:

- Add Additional HOV/HOT Lanes to Existing US 281 Corridor
- Increases vehicle occupancy rates
- Could be reversible by direction

Recommendation: *To be carried forward for Level 2 Screening*



Houston, TX

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should these Alternatives* be carried forward for Level 2 Screening?

Yes

No

No Build	
Light Rail	
Streetcars	
Fixed Route Bus	
Express Bus	
Bus Rapid Transit	
Add Lanes to Existing US 281	
Grade Separated Intersections	
Expand Parallel Corridors	
Upgrade US 281 to an Expressway	
High Occupancy Vehicles/High Occupancy Toll Lanes	
Growth Management	
Bike/Pedestrian Facilities	
Transportation System Management	
Transportation Demand Management	

*Any of these alternatives may be combined into a package of improvements
Note: All of these alternatives apply to US 281 North of Loop 1604.

2 - 14"x44" boards
2 copies of each of these boards (4 boards total)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should these Alternatives* be Eliminated from further Screening?

Yes

No

Heavy Rail	
Commuter Rail	
Monorail	
Automated Guideway Transit	
Personal Rapid Transit	
New Parallel Corridor	

*Alternatives found to have fatal flaws

Slide Presentations

Welcome to the

US 281

Environmental Impact Statement

Public Scoping Meeting #2

November 17, 2009

281EIS

Community Engagement



281 EIS

Need and Purpose

The **population** in the project area is **estimated** to more than **double** by **2035**

From 2003 - 2007 the **crash rate** on **US 281** was **substantially higher** than the statewide average

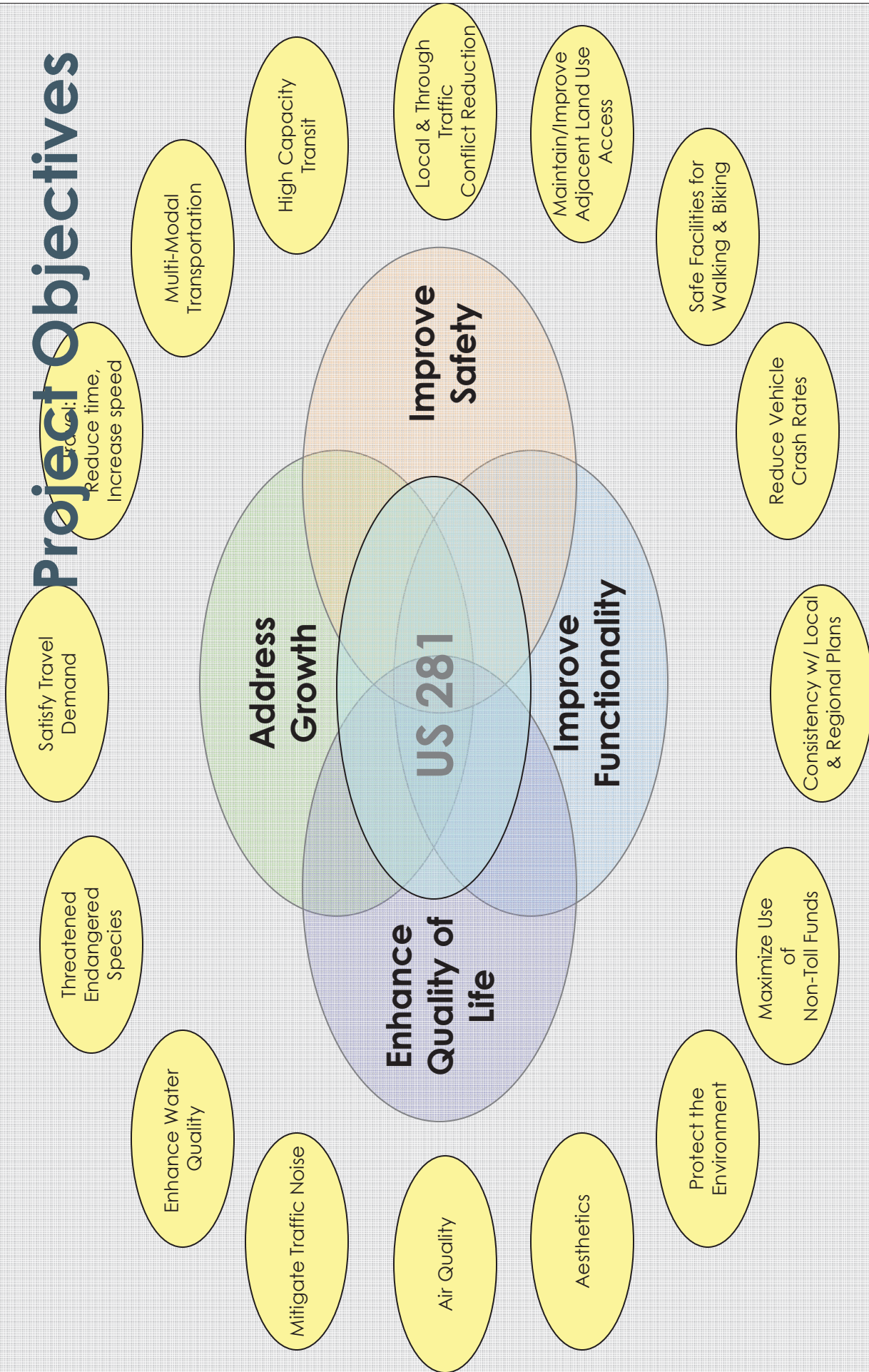
Need and Purpose

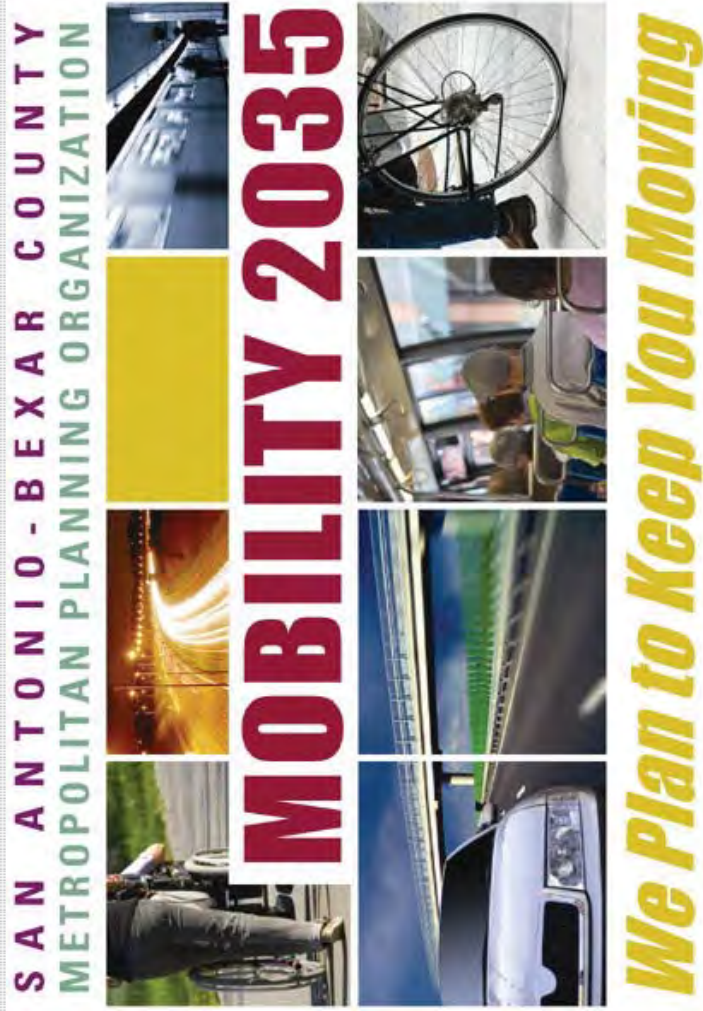
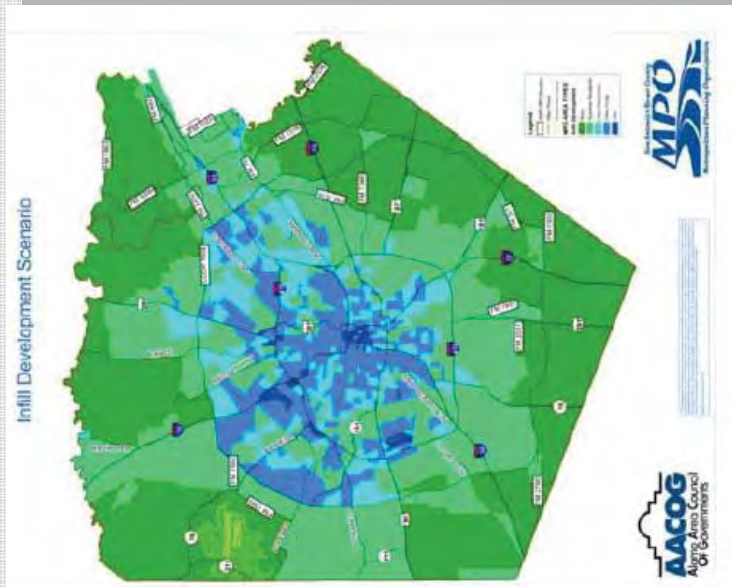
Over the last decade **land development** has **increased** local traffic resulting in a **conflict** between **mobility** and **accessibility**

Harmful **on-road** emissions **are expected** to **increase** by **27%** by 2014

Limited facilities for **alternative** **modes** of transportation

Project Objectives





Be consistent with local and regional plans and policies



281 EIS

***Provide additional capacity to
satisfy current and forecasted
corridor travel demand***



US 281 between Stone Oak Pkwy and Evans Road

**SAN ANTONIO - BEXAR COUNTY
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**



MOBILITY 2035



We Plan to Keep You Moving

281 EIS

***Reduce travel times
and increase travel
speeds for through
traffic during peak
travel periods***



US 281 south of Loop 1604



281 EIS

Reduce conflicts between local access and through traffic



US 281, San Antonio

Maintain and/or improve access to adjacent land uses and cross streets



US 281 at Evans Road

281 EIS

***Reduce vehicle crash
rates by providing for the
safe and easy movement
of motor vehicles within
the corridor***



Colorado Springs, Colorado

***Allow for development
of high capacity transit
in the long term***



Houston, Texas



Curitiba, Brazil



***Maximize use of federal,
state and local government
funds and other non-tolled
sources of funding***



State Capitol, Austin, Texas

**Promote community
wellness and
contribute to a
healthy community
through safe facilities
for walking and biking**



San Diego, CA



Huntsville, Alabama



Enhance water quality through management of stormwater runoff



Seattle, Washington



Cave near Medina Lake, Texas

***Avoid negative impacts to
threatened and endangered
species and their habitat***



Improve Air Quality



US Highway 5, Los Angeles, California



281EIS



Prima Freeway, Scottsdale, Arizona

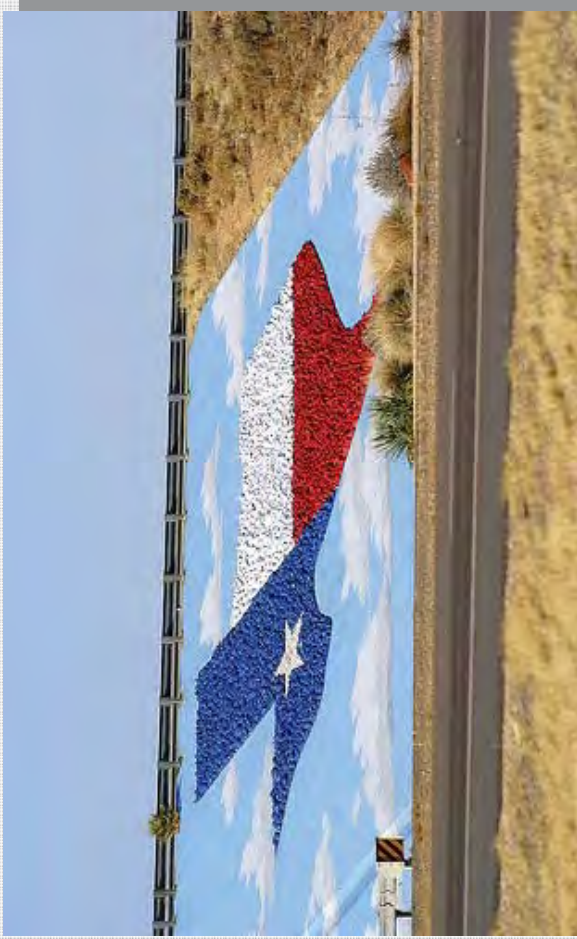


US 75, Dallas, Texas

Mitigate Traffic Noise



Santa Monica, California



I-20, Pecos, Texas



Bluebonnets of the Texas Hill Country

Reflect the character and values of the corridor through aesthetic treatments and landscaping acceptable to corridor neighborhoods



Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland

Protect the environment and avoid and/or minimize and mitigate adverse direct, indirect and cumulative impacts to social, economic and environmental resources



US 281 at Bulverde Road



US 281 North, San Antonio

**Please Tour the Exhibits at Your
Own Pace,**

**Ask Questions and Share Your
Thoughts**

281EIS

US 281 Environmental Impact Statement

Public Scoping Meeting #2

November 17, 2009

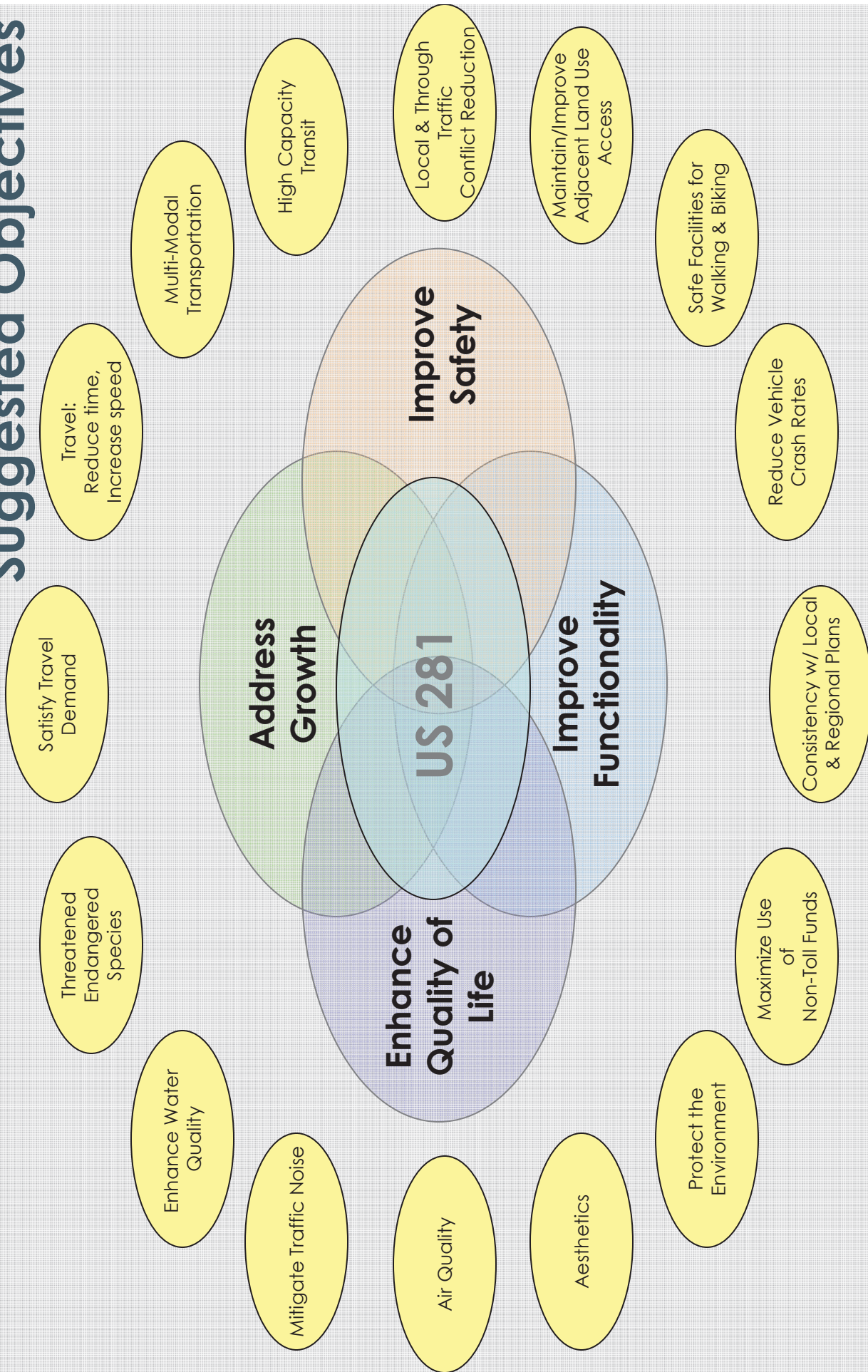
281EIS

Community Engagement



281 EIS

Suggested Objectives

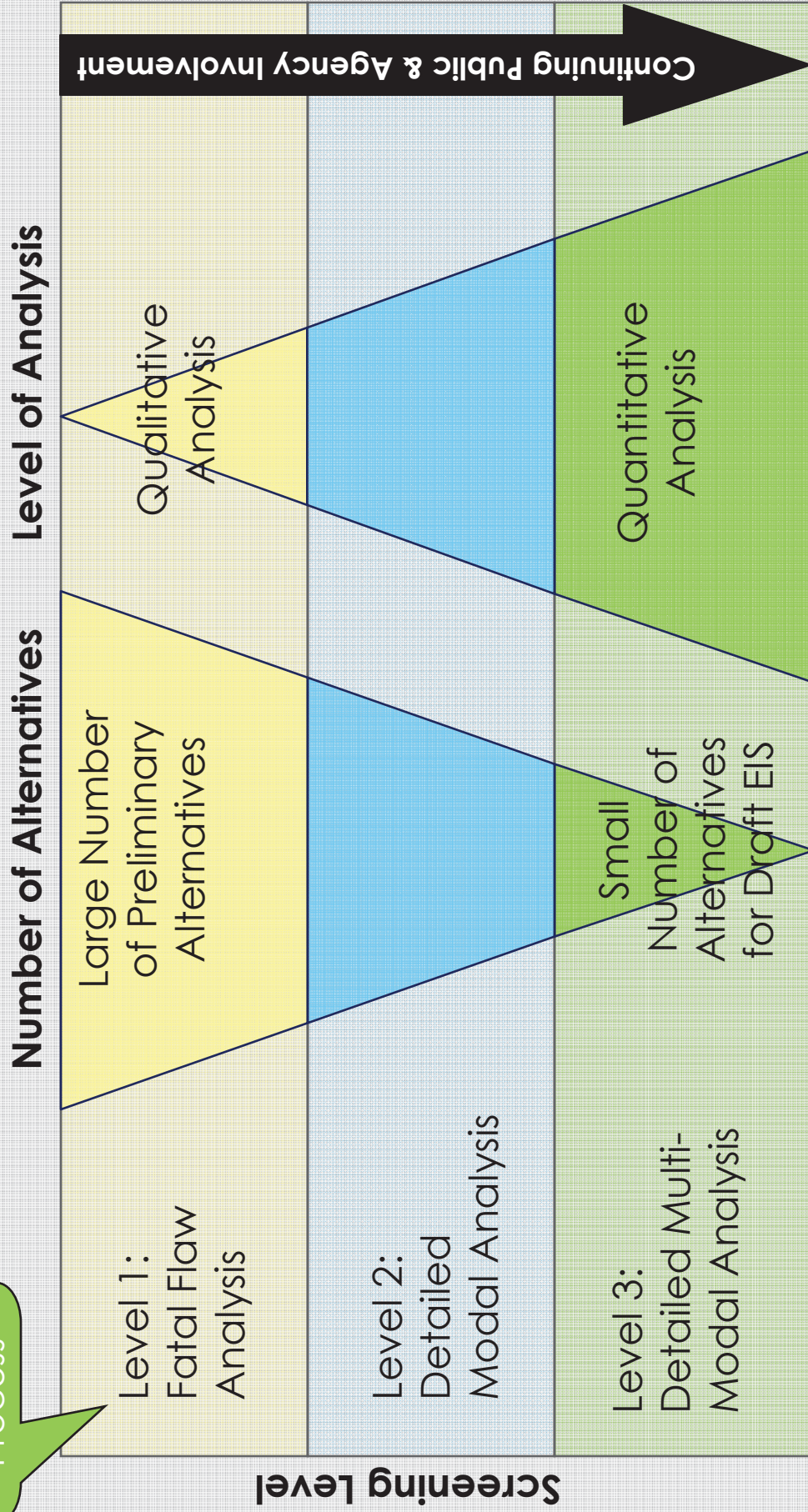


Alternatives Development

281EIS

Alternatives Evaluation Process

We Are Here in the Process



Alternatives Screening

- **Level 1: Fatal Flaw Analysis (Qualitative)**
 - Evaluate Alternatives for Fatal Flaws:
 - Not compatible with regional plans
 - Unproven technology
 - Major adverse impacts
- Level 2: Detailed Modal Analysis (Quantitative)
- Level 3: Detailed Multi-Modal Analysis (Quantitative)
- All Draft EIS Highway Improvement Alternatives will be analyzed for both toll and non-toll effects
- Public Review and Comment on Reasonable Alternatives

Preliminary Alternatives

281EIS

Preliminary Alternatives

- **No-Build**
- **Transit (North of Loop 1604)**
 - Fixed Guideway
 - Heavy Rail
 - Commuter Rail
 - Monorail
 - Automated Guideway Transit
 - Personal Rapid Transit
 - Light Rail
 - Streetcars
- Non-fixed Guideway
 - Fixed Route Bus
 - Express Bus
 - Bus Rapid Transit

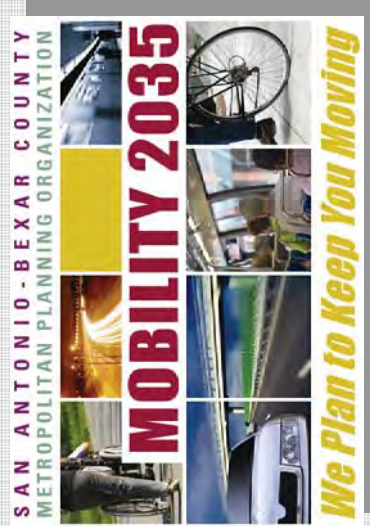
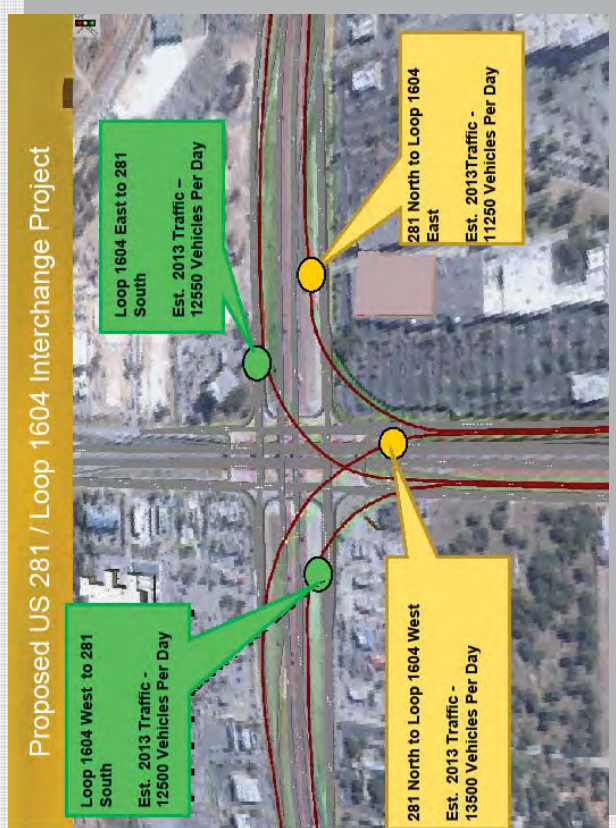
Preliminary Alternatives

- **Highway Improvement (North of Loop 1604)**
 - Add Lanes to Existing US 281
 - Grade Separated Intersections
 - Expand Parallel Corridors
 - New Parallel Corridor
 - Upgrade US 281 to Expressway
 - High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)/High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes
- **Other (North of Loop 1604)**
 - Growth Management
 - Bike & Pedestrian Facilities
 - Transportation System Management (TSM)
 - Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

No Build Alternative

- **Description**

- The No Build Alternative would include
 - US 281 Super Street improvements
 - Upgrade to the Loop 1604/US 281 Interchange
 - All planned short and long range regional transportation improvements (except the US 281 Corridor North of Loop 1604)
 - Short-term minor maintenance and safety improvements that maintain the continued operation of existing US 281 north of Loop 1604
- Provides a baseline to compare against all build alternatives



Super Street

Transit Alternatives on US 281 (North of Loop 1604)

281EIS

- **Description:**

- Commonly called metros or subways
- Operates in densely populated urban areas on steel tracks in exclusive right of way
- Powered by an electrified third rail alongside the track

~~Heavy Rail~~

Fatal Flaw: Not compatible with regional plans



BART
San Francisco



MARTA
Atlanta



Metrorail
Washington, DC

- **Description:**

- Typically operates in freight rail right of way
- May use locomotives with passenger cars or self-propelled passenger cars, known as diesel multiple units (DMUs)
- Serves longer distance commute

~~Commuter Rail~~



No existing freight line

Not compatible with corridor plans



TriRail - Fort Lauderdale



Trinity Railway Express
Fort Worth



Las Vegas

Not compatible with regional plans

~~Monorail~~

Fatal Flaw:

- **Description:**

- Elevated on a concrete or steel guideway
- Can be operated by a driver or automated
- Historically used in recreational areas or downtowns



Seattle

281EIS

- **Description:**

- Found in major airports, activity centers, and downtown areas
- Similar to monorail (driverless, electrically powered and exclusive right of way)
- May be tunneled, elevated, and/or at grade

Fatal Flaw:

Speed & service distance not satisfactory

Not compatible with regional plans



Metrorail
Miami



People Mover
Detroit



Skyway
Jacksonville

~~Personal Rapid Transit~~

- **Description:**

- Designed to provide personalized service between specific origin and destination stations
- Operates on demand with no intermediate stops



Morgantown, WV

Fatal Flaw:

Not a proven technology

Not compatible with regional plans

Light Rail

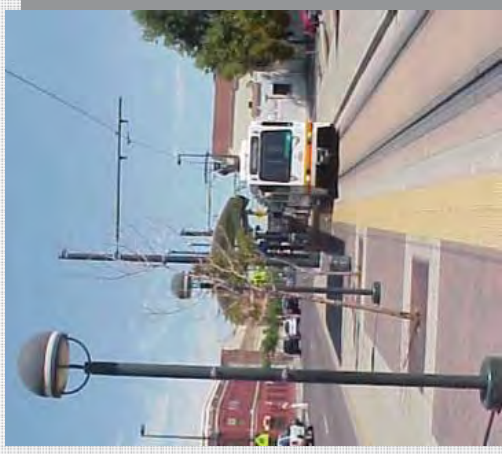
- **Description:**
 - Medium capacity, higher speed service in urban areas
 - Operate on steel rail with overhead electric power
 - Can operate in exclusive rights-of-way (either at-grade or elevated) and share city streets



DART - Dallas



Metro - Houston



RTD - Denver

Streetcars

- **Description:**

- Share city streets to provide circulation or connector services
- Operate on steel wheels or rubber tires with overhead electric power



Portland



San Francisco



Salt Lake City

Fixed Route Bus Service

- **Description:**
 - Operates in mixed traffic on existing streets
 - On-board fare collection
 - Frequent stops and wide coverage area



San Antonio

Express Bus Service

- **Description:**

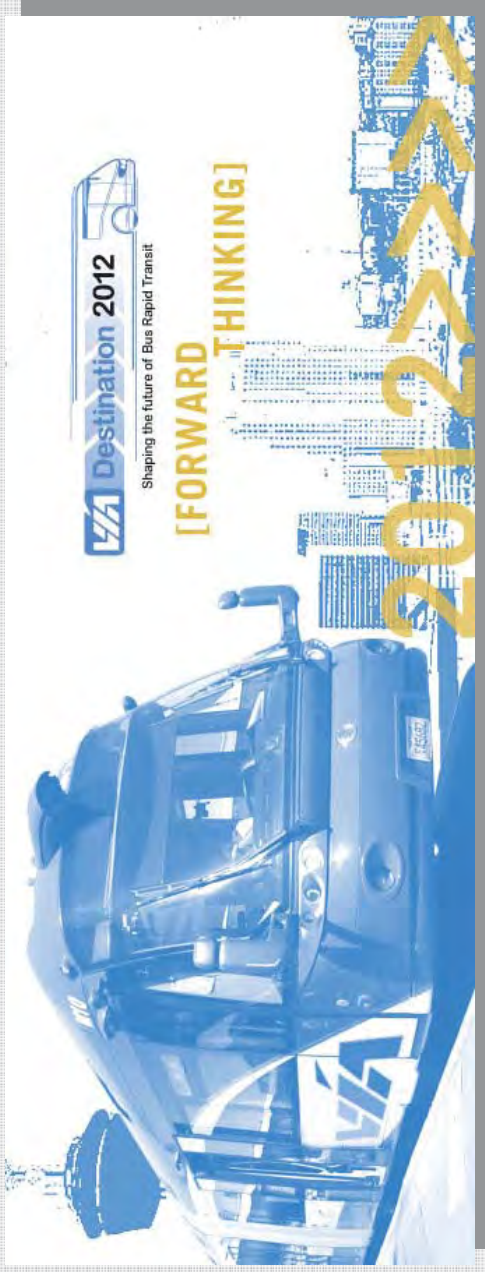
- Limited stops and direct routes between clusters of origins and destinations (e.g. suburb to downtown)
- Operates in mixed traffic on existing streets or in HOV lanes (Dallas and Houston)
- Faster and more expensive than Fixed Route service



San Antonio

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

- **Description:**
 - Operates in preferential or exclusive bus lanes
 - Signal prioritization
 - Improved fare collection process
 - Easier boarding system
 - Enhanced passenger information technology



San Antonio

Highway Improvements to US 281 (North of Loop 1604)

281 EIS

Add Lanes to Existing US 281* Corridor

- **Description**
 - Additional lanes on existing US 281
 - No grade separations or control of access



US 281 Today - between Stone Oak and Evans

* North of Loop 1604

Grade Separated Intersections

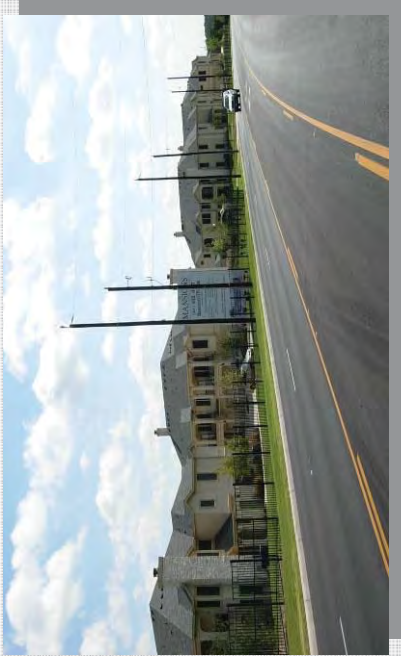
- **Description**
 - Grade separation at major intersections
 - Access to adjacent land use via short frontage roads and driveways
 - Does not include continuous frontage roads



Wurzbach Parkway at Perrin Beitel Road, San Antonio

Expand Parallel Corridors

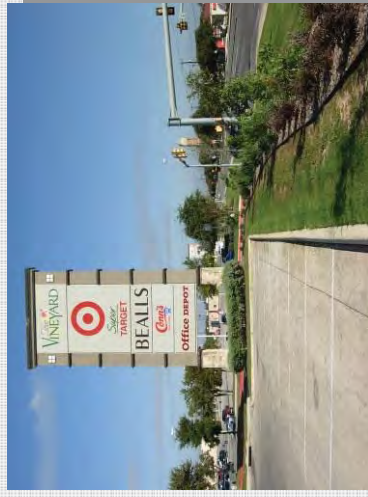
- **Description**
 - Upgrade of Bulverde Road and/or Blanco Road
 - Diversion of traffic from US 281 to parallel corridors



Bulverde Road



Bulverde Road



Blanco Road



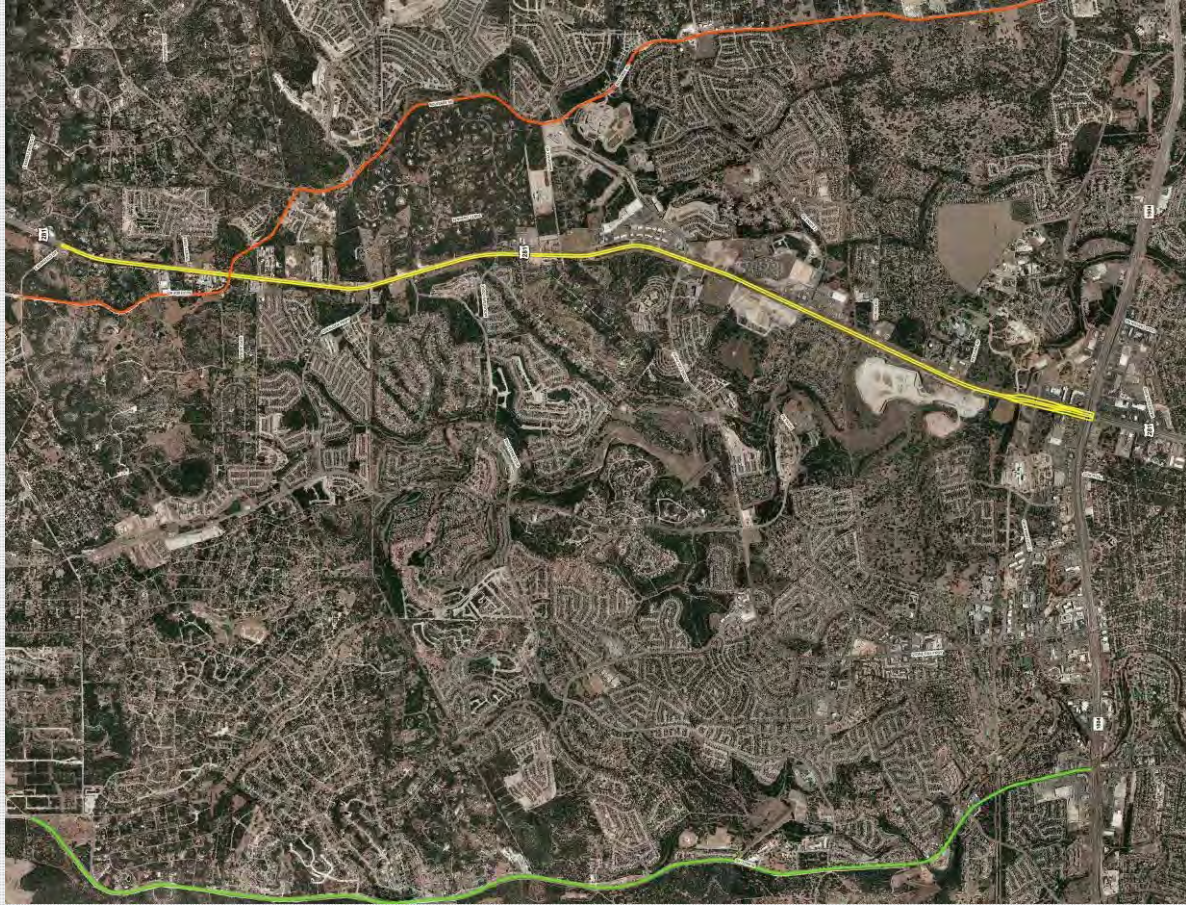
Blanco Road

~~New Parallel Corridor~~

- **Description**

- New corridor parallel to US 281 between Bulverde Road and Blanco Road

***Fatal Flaw:
High adverse impacts***



281 EIS

Upgrade existing US 281* to an Expressway

- **Description**

- Convert to completely grade separated expressway with continuous frontage roads
- Access to adjacent land uses through continuous frontage roads
- At grade, elevated and/or depressed options



US 281 at Donella Drive, San Antonio



Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway, Tampa, Florida

* North of Loop 1604

281 EIS

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) / High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes

- **Description**

- Add additional High Occupancy Vehicle / High Occupancy Toll lanes to existing US 281* Corridor
- Increases vehicle occupancy rates
- Could be reversible by direction

* North of Loop 1604

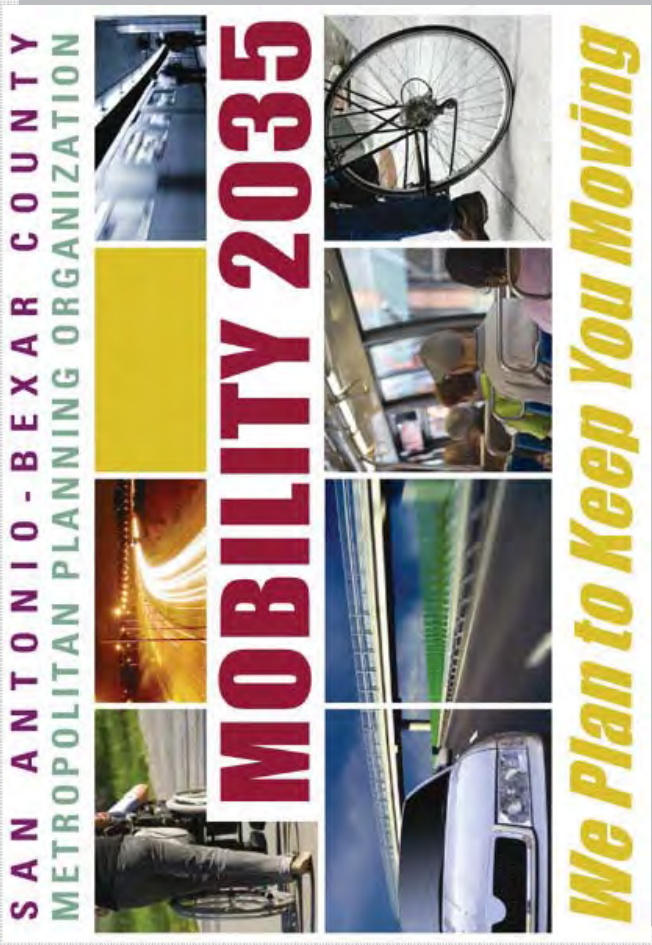
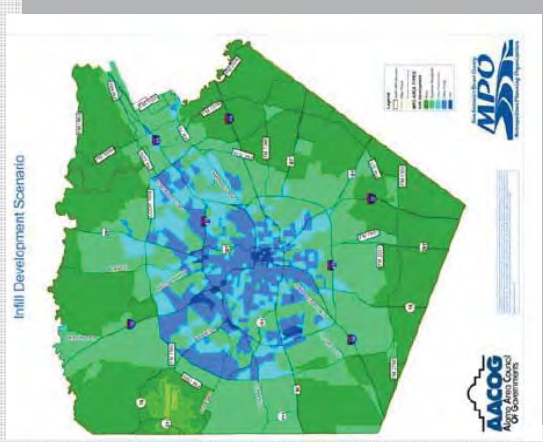


Houston, TX

Other Alternatives on US 281 (North of Loop 1604)

Growth Management

- **Description**
 - Focus growth within urban core
 - Encourage more efficient land use and reduce trip lengths
 - Part of the MPO Long Range Plan



Bike & Pedestrian Facilities

- **Description**
 - More efficient means of making short trips
 - Low cost
 - Reduces congestion
 - Promotes healthy lifestyle



San Diego, California

Transportation System Management (TSM)

- Easily implemented, low capital cost transportation improvements that increase the efficiency of transportation facilities and services
- **Examples:**
 - Improved intersection or signal operation
 - Access management
 - Ridesharing
 - Incident management program

Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

- Typically refers to policies, programs, and actions that are directed towards decreasing single occupant vehicle travel
- **Examples:**
 - Area pricing
 - Mandatory alternative work schedules
 - Parking management

Level 1 Fatal Flaw Analysis Results

281EIS

Alternatives Recommended for Elimination

- **Alternatives with Fatal Flaws:**

- Heavy Rail
- Commuter Rail
- Monorail
- Automated Guideway Transit
- Personal Rapid Transit
- New Parallel Corridor

Not compatible with regional plans

Unproven technology

Major adverse impacts

Alternatives Recommended to be carried forward for Level 2 Screening

- No Build
- Light Rail
- Streetcars
- Fixed Route Bus
- Express Bus
- Bus Rapid Transit
- Add Lanes to Existing US 281*
- Grade Separated Intersections
- Expand Parallel Corridors
- Upgrade US 281* to an Expressway
- HOV/HOT Lanes
- Growth Management
- Bike/Pedestrian Facilities
- Transportation System Management
- Transportation Demand Management

* North of Loop 1604

Introduction to Small Group Work Sessions



Part 1 Purpose and Objectives Worksheet

For Part 1 of this evening's group exercise, we would like to accomplish the following:

- Familiarize you with the suggested purpose and objectives for US 281 transportation improvements.
- Have you consider how the objectives relate to the purposes.
- Have a conversation about how they relate.

In response to the need for transportation improvements in the US 281 corridor, the purpose is to address growth, improve functionality, improve safety, and enhance community quality of life. The following table identifies some objectives that have been developed to further define the project purpose. They are not listed in order of importance, but are numbered only for easy referral. Each of the columns represents one of the purposes as identified for this EIS.

For each of the objectives, please put a checkmark in the column below each purpose you believe is addressed by that objective (you may check more than one). Feel free to ask questions of your group's facilitator if the objective is not clear to you.

Objectives	Purpose		
	Address Growth	Improve Functionality	Enhance Safety
Example		✓	✓
1. Provide additional capacity to satisfy current and forecasted corridor travel demand.			
2. Reduce travel times and increase travel speeds for through traffic during peak travel periods.			
3. Create a multi-modal transportation facility that is compatible with, and connects to, the regional transportation network.			
4. Allow for development of high-capacity transit in the long term.			
5. Reduce conflicts between local access and through traffic.			
6. Maintain and/or improve access to adjacent land uses and cross streets.			
7. Promote community wellness and contribute to a healthy community through safe facilities for walking and biking.			

US 281 Public Scoping Meeting #2
November 17th 2009

1



Part 2 Purpose and Objectives Worksheet

Part 2 of this evening's group exercise is intended to accomplish the following results:

- Encourage a conversation about the importance of the transportation improvements to the entire US 281 corridor.
- Allow participants to identify the objectives that they believe are most important to the success of the transportation improvements to the US 281 corridor.
- Encourage participants to identify the objectives that they believe are most important to the success of the transportation improvements to the US 281 corridor.

There is a list of objectives developed for the US 281 corridor. They are numbered only for easy referral. They are not listed in order of importance, but are numbered only for easy referral. Each of the columns represents one of the purposes as identified for this EIS.

For each of the objectives, please put a checkmark in the column below each purpose you believe is addressed by that objective (you may check more than one). Feel free to ask questions of your group's facilitator if the objective is not clear to you.

Objectives	Purpose		
	Address Growth	Improve Functionality	Enhance Safety
Example		✓	✓
1. Provide additional capacity to satisfy current and forecasted corridor travel demand.			
2. Reduce travel times and increase travel speeds for through traffic during peak travel periods.			
3. Create a multi-modal transportation facility that is compatible with, and connects to, the regional transportation network.			
4. Allow for development of high-capacity transit in the long term.			
5. Reduce conflicts between local access and through traffic.			
6. Maintain and/or improve access to adjacent land uses and cross streets.			
7. Promote community wellness and contribute to a healthy community through safe facilities for walking and biking.			

US 281 Public Scoping Meeting #2
November 17th 2009



APPENDIX D

Photos









